

28955 - English for rural and agri-food engineering

Información del Plan Docente

Academic Year	2016/17
Academic center	201 - Escuela Politécnica Superior
Degree	437 - Degree in Rural and Agri-Food Engineering
ECTS	6.0
Course	4
Period	Second semester
Subject Type	Optional
Module	---

1.Basic info

1.1.Recommendations to take this course

1.2.Activities and key dates for the course

2.Initiation

2.1.Learning outcomes that define the subject

2.2.Introduction

3.Context and competences

3.1.Goals

3.2.Context and meaning of the subject in the degree

3.3.Competences

3.4.Importance of learning outcomes

4.Evaluation

5.Activities and resources

5.1.General methodological presentation

The principles and tenets of the communicative approach to language teaching and learning are assumed on the basis of its contribution to the development of students' many-fold communicative competence: discorsal, grammatical, pragmatic, strategic and intercultural. This focus on communication requires the students' active participation in the activities proposed. Since this is a special purpose English course (English for Agri-food and environmental engineering), the students are encouraged to share their own career-related interests from the beginning, in an attempt to better suit their needs.

28955 - English for rural and agri-food engineering

5.2.Learning activities

1:

Interactive lectures held in a conventional classroom, which are aimed at presenting each aspect of the program: forms, meanings and uses of the relevant grammar structures, terminology, and rhetorical elements. Task types will be based on observation, reflection, inference or classification (1.2 ECTS).

2:

Classroom practice such as problem-solving or other types to carry out individually or in small groups (1.8 ETCS), including:

o Intensive reading of texts of varying lengths, followed by tasks which require locating specific information, deducing meanings, simple language / discourse analyses and restatements.

o Listening or viewing sessions followed by analyses and comprehension exercises.

o Debates.

o Oral presentations followed by whole-class interaction.

3:

Sessions aimed at supervised individual practice of communicative skills (except oral production) to be held periodically in a computer room (3 ECTS).

o Reading comprehension.

o Writing of different kinds of text.

o Listening comprehension.

o Tasks involving autonomous use of a variety of online resources in English and about English.

5.3.Program

* Relevant aspects of English grammar (B1+)

-Main verb tenses.

-Modal verbs.

-The imperative and the indirect style.

28955 - English for rural and agri-food engineering

- The passive voice.
- Comparative and superlative forms of adjectives and adverbs.
- Countable and uncountable nouns.
- Use of definite and indefinite articles.
- Conditional clauses.
- Relative clauses.
- Cause and consequence clauses.
- Time clauses.

* **Functions of written and spoken scientific discourse:**

- Direct and indirect instructions.
- Description of objects, processes and trends.
- Expression of quantity and probability.
- Classification, definition and exemplification.
- Expression of cause and effect.
- Expression of conditions and hypotheses.
- Description of a problem, solutions and evaluation.

* **Vocabulary:**

- Common academic vocabulary.
- Word formation: prefixes, suffixes and compounds.
- The lexicon of Agri-food and environmental engineering.

* **Topics:**

28955 - English for rural and agri-food engineering

1. Past, present and future of agriculture.
2. Soils, plants and climate.
3. Main food crops and ornamental plants.
4. Weeds, pests and diseases.
5. Livestock.
6. Farms and agri-food industries.
7. Sustainable farming.

5.4.Planning and scheduling

The dates and schedule of the continuous assessment tests and activities and the final oral test schedule will be made available through Moodle. The date of the final written test is published on the EPS website.

5.5.Bibliography and recommended resources

Apart from the following list, additional resources will be made available on Moodle.

- Bell, Douglas. *Passport to Academic Presentations* . Student's Book / Douglas Bell . 1st ed. Reading, UK : Garnet, 2008.
- Burton, Graham. *Presenting: deliver presentations with confidence* / Graham Burton . London : HarperCollins, cop. 2013.
- Harrison, R. *Better writing* . Reading: Garnet Education, 2014.
- O'Sullivan, Neil y James D. Libbin. *Career Paths: Agriculture* . Student's book, 2 CDs. UK edition. Berkshire: Express Publishing, 2011.