

# Teaching guide

## IDENTIFICATION DETAILS

Degree:	Journalism		
Field of Knowledge:	Social and Legal Science		
Faculty/School:	Communication Science		
Course:	ENGLISH I		
Type:	Basic Training	ECTS credits:	6
Year:	1	Code:	3244
Teaching period:	Second semester		
Area:	Modern Language		
Module:	Communication Skills		
Teaching type:	Classroom-based		
Language:	English		
Total number of student study hours:	150		

Teaching staff	E-mail
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## SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

Equip learners with the knowledge and skills which will enable them to use the English language in their future work environment as true professionals in the field of journalism, research or documentation. Educate and train students to be able to communicate in different multimedia platforms.

English I is a course, which is compulsory and which carries 6 ECTS credits, implying 150 hours of dedication on the learner's part, taught in the Second Semester of the First Year of Journalism Degree studies. This course is embodied within the Area of Modern Language and withinin the module: Communication skills.

English I forms part of a well-rounded, integral education focused on the learner in all of his or her harmoniously integrated dimensions (intelligence, will, emotional nature, sociability, abilities, skills...). In the area of journalism, our aim is that future journalists become true professionals with a true love and vocation for journalism, being faithful discoverers and spreaders of truth (especially of the truths that make us free).

## GOAL

To develop and improve the learner's overall communicative skills in English through active listening and speaking, and in particular, to increase the learner's understanding and use of vocabulary and language structure as well as reading and writing skills within this particular field of study.

## PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

This course recommends a minimum B1/B2 level of English. (See: the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages).

## COURSE SYLLABUS

UNIT 1: MAKING PRESENTATIONS  
UNIT 2: SPEECH ANALYSIS AND TED TALKS - I  
UNIT 3: THE JOB OF A JOURNALIST  
UNIT 4. ETHICS IN JOURNALISM  
UNIT 5 English in the News

1. The first unit 'MAKING PRESENTATIONS' leads the students to improve their oral and communicative skills through good techniques, the proper use of resources and a mastery of relevant Presentation language.
2. The second unit analyses well known speeches and conferences, focusing on content and crucial aspects of an oral presentation. The students will make use of TED talks for this purpose.
3. The third unit presents an overview of the different tasks and responsibilities of a working journalist within the various branches of Journalism.
4. The fourth unit explores the principles and standards of good practice in Journalism today.
- 5 The final unit takes a close look at the language used to convey news stories through different media outlets today.

## EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

In second-language teaching-learning methodology, the how is as important as the what or even the final result.

The methodology applied in this course is therefore communicative, eclectic and collaborative. 'Communicative' implies active participation and involvement. 'Eclectic' takes into account different teaching-learning styles, allowing the student to develop and activate his/her own learning. 'Collaborative' provides the learner with the opportunity, both individually and in collaboration with others, to acquire more autonomy as well as a greater sense of responsibility for self and others. The teacher is a guide in this learning process.

This communicative, eclectic, collaborative methodology implies,

**IN CLASS:**

- Interactive class lectures
- Student presentations and student-led discussions
- Group and pair activities: role-plays, simulations, interviews, research, project work, online forums, etc.
- Feedback mechanisms
- Final written and/or oral exams

**OUTSIDE OF CLASS:**

- Independent study and preparation of class/group/pair work
- Online task completion and participation
- Individual and group tutorials
- Self-assessment

The focus of this subject is on content, knowledge and skills relevant to the chosen degree area.

**DISTRIBUTION OF WORK TIME**

CLASSROOM-BASED ACTIVITY	INDEPENDENT STUDY/OUT-OF-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY
60 hours	90 hours
Theoretical Classes / Lectures 35h Theoretical and practical workshops, seminars, conference, round tables: (Work in small groups in order to go in depth with specific content, individual or group tutorials) 11h Practical Classes 10h Assessment 4h	Individual and group work 30h Theoretical and practical study 40h Completion of assignments on UFV Virtu@I and /or other multimedia platforms. 20h

**SKILLS**

**Basic Skills**

Students must have demonstrated knowledge and understanding in an area of study that is founded on general secondary education. Moreover, the area of study is typically at a level that includes certain aspects implying knowledge at the forefront of its field of study, albeit supported by advanced textbooks

Students must have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually within their field of study) in order to make judgments that include reflections on pertinent social, scientific or ethical issues

**General Skills**

To learn how to acquire knowledge: to understand the dynamics of personal development through skills in communication, research, critical and creative thought, consideration and execution of action plans, and teamwork.

**Specific skills**

Acquire the ability to express oneself fluently and efficiently in English in order to transmit messages and information in that language.

Employ the English language accurately in order to gain access to news and information in the press and audiovisual media.

Use the English language as highly practical transnational instrument of communication, opening doors to other cultures and original journalistic sources.

## LEARNING RESULTS

Identify the different types of journalism and their characteristics

Discern the standards and ethical principles underpinning good professional journalism.

Apply effective communication skills and techniques to oral presentations

Show an appreciation and understanding of the use of language, style and convention within specific news items.

Analyse and review conferences and speeches in order to assess their overall effectiveness and contribution to public life.

## LEARNING APPRAISAL SYSTEM

PRIMARY CONTINUOUS EVALUATION SYSTEM:

ORDINARY EXAM PERIOD: Jan. (1st SEM.) - May (2nd SEM.)

BLOCK 1: WRITTEN AND ORAL ASSESSMENT- 60%

o20% - Oral: Individual/group presentations, debates, discussions, simulations, interviews, etc., done throughout the course. Minimum 2 evaluated tasks. To calculate an average with the written, the student must obtain an overall PASS on the oral.

o40% - Written.

Note: Students must obtain an overall PASS (5/10) in BLOCK 1, to calculate an overall grade average with BLOCKS 2 and 3.

BLOCK 2: INDEPENDENT STUDY-WORK ASSESSMENT - 30%

oTask completion and evaluation of minimum 3 pieces of work, assigned by the teacher

oCompletion of regular homework assignments

oOnline task completion and participation (forums, blogs, etc.)

oAttendance to tutorials when called upon

Note: All tasks and assignments must be handed in in due time and in proper form.

Note: To calculate an overall grade average with BLOCKS 1 and 3, it is required that the student obtain an overall PASS (5/10) in BLOCK 2.

BLOCK 3: ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION – 10%

oRegular attendance and active participation.

Note: Students who do not attend class on a regular basis and do not have a formal “dispensa” authorized by the Degree automatically lose this 10%.

EXTRAORDINARY EXAM PERIOD: June-July (1st SEM.) – June-July (2nd SEM.)

Within one academic period, all passed marks of different blocks will be transferred from the ordinary to the extraordinary exam period. Only those blocks failed in the ordinary period are to be repeated.

BLOCK 1: WRITTEN AND ORAL ASSESSMENT- 60%

o20% - Oral. If you failed the oral section, you will be required to carry out the following:

oOne prepared task based on the course topics.

oAn open question / interview section related to the course content, but announced at the time of the oral assessment.

o40% - Written. If you failed the written section, you will be required to sit one written exam based on the contents

covered throughout the course.

Note: To calculate an average, students must obtain an overall PASS (5 mark) on both the oral and written parts individually.

#### **BLOCK 2: INDEPENDENT STUDY-WORK ASSESSMENT - 30%**

If you have failed block 2, you need to repeat and submit all the items specified in the ordinary exam period in due time and in proper form. You need to hand it in by the official final exam date in the extraordinary period.

Note: To calculate an overall grade average with BLOCKS 1 and 3, it is required that the student obtain an overall PASS (5/10) in BLOCK 2.

#### **BLOCK 3: ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION – 10%**

oThe mark for this block will be transferred from the ordinary period to the extraordinary period.

#### **NOTES:**

- 1.Coursework deadlines are established at the beginning of the course. No work will be accepted after the due date.
- 2.Plagiarism is penalized with a FAIL grade, taking the student directly to the extraordinary exam period.
- 3.Students with a 'dispensa' are responsible for contacting their subject teacher within the first 5 class days of the semester and for complying with the course requirements.
- 4.Honorable Mention: An honorable mention is recognition of excellence. It is awarded exclusively to students who stand out from their peers academically, as well as in attitude, dedication and teamwork. This decision lies exclusively with the subject teacher.

#### **ALTERNATIVE CONTINUOUS EVALUATION SYSTEM:**

This system only applies for those students who are repeating the course, and/or who have an official 'dispensa' signed by the dean of the corresponding faculty.

ORDINARY EXAM PERIOD: Jan. (1st SEM.) - May (2nd SEM.)

EXTRAORDINARY EXAM PERIOD: June-July (1st SEM.) – June-July (2nd SEM.)

#### **BLOCK 1: WRITTEN AND ORAL ASSESSMENT- 60%**

o20% - Oral. Two pieces are evaluated:

oOne prepared piece of work based on the course topics.

oAn open question / interview section related to the course content, but announced at the time of the oral assessment.

o40% - Written. One written exam based on the contents covered throughout the course.

Note: To calculate an average between the oral and the written, students must obtain an overall PASS (5 mark) on each part individually.

#### **BLOCK 2: INDEPENDENT STUDY-WORK ASSESSMENT - 40%**

oTask completion and evaluation of minimum 3 pieces of work, assigned by the teacher.

oCompletion of regular homework assignments which will be handed in through the "aula virtual" or mail.

oOnline task completion and participation (forums, blogs, etc.).

oAttendance to tutorials when called upon.

Note: All tasks and assignments must be handed in in due time and in proper form.

Note: To calculate an average grade with BLOCK 1, it is required that the student obtain an overall PASS (5/10) in BLOCK 2.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY AND OTHER RESOURCES**

### **Basic**

1st Journalism English I Coursepack created by the UFV language department.

(2005). Harrap's Spanish and English Dictionary. Chicago: McGraw-Hill.