



POLITÉCNICA

INTERNATIONAL
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COORDINATION PROCESS OF
LEARNING ACTIVITIES
PR/CL/001



E.T.S. de Arquitectura

ANX-PR/CL/001-01

LEARNING GUIDE

SUBJECT

35001605 - English Communication

DEGREE PROGRAMME

03AQ - Grado En Fundamentos De La Arquitectura

ACADEMIC YEAR & SEMESTER

2022/23 - Semester 1

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1. Description

1.1. Subject details

Name of the subject	35001605 - English Communication
No of credits	6 ECTS
Type	Compulsory
Academic year of the programme	Third year
Semester of tuition	Semester 5 Semester 6
Tuition period	September-January
Tuition languages	English
Degree programme	03AQ - Grado en Fundamentos de la Arquitectura
Centre	03 - Escuela Tecnica Superior De Arquitectura
Academic year	2022-23

2. Faculty

2.1. Faculty members with subject teaching role

Name and surname	Office/Room	Email	Tutoring hours *
Paloma Ubeda Mansilla (Subject coordinator)	SDLACT	paloma.ubeda@upm.es	Sin horario. To be determined
Ana Maria Martin Castillejos	SDLACT	am.martin.castillejos@upm.es	Th - 15:30 - 18:30 F - 15:30 - 18:30

* The tutoring schedule is indicative and subject to possible changes. Please check tutoring times with the faculty member in charge.

3. Prior knowledge required to take the subject

3.1. Prerequisite (passed) subjects

-
-
- Nivelacion B2 en Lengua Inglesa

3.2. Other required learning outcomes

The subject - other required learning outcomes, are not defined.

4. Prior knowledge recommended to take the subject

4.1. Recommended (passed) subjects

The subject - recommended (passed), are not defined.

4.2. Other recommended learning outcomes

- This course focuses on how to use English in professional and academic contexts, rather than on the study of English from a philological viewpoint. It is a practice-oriented course.
- Certifying a B2 level of English according to the CEFR is compulsory before enrolling for this course. The B2 language certificates accepted by the UPM can be found on <https://www.etsist.upm.es/escuela/departamentos/LING/acreditacion-b2-en-lengua-ingles>

5. Skills and learning outcomes *

5.1. Skills to be learned

- CG 11. - Razonamiento crítico
- CG 12. - Trabajo en un equipo de carácter interdisciplinar
- CG 13. - Trabajo en equipo
- CG 21. - Iniciativa y espíritu emprendedor
- CG 22. - Habilidades en las relaciones interpersonales
- CG 25. - Adaptación a las nuevas situaciones
- CG 27. - Conocimiento de otras culturas y costumbres
- CG 28. - Uso de la lengua inglesa
- CG 4. - Capacidad de análisis y síntesis
- CG 9. - Motivación por la calidad

5.2. Learning outcomes

- RA199 - Reading essays
- RA201 - Reading Abstracts
- RA200 - Reading internet websides
- RA202 - Reading journals
- RA203 - Reading reports
- RA204 - Developing a glossary of technical vocabulary
- RA205 - Grammar practice
- RA206 - Translating texts CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning)

RA212 - Uso adecuado del inglés para el ejercicio profesional.

RA213 - Uso adecuado del inglés para el ejercicio académico

RA214 - Poner en práctica habilidades de expresión y comunicación oral y escrita en el contexto profesional

RA215 - Poner en práctica habilidades de expresión y comunicación oral y escrita en inglés en el contexto académico

RA182 - Developing and delivering oral presentations

RA183 - Socializing, making contact

RA180 - Adquisición de léxico relacionado con la arquitectura

RA181 - Aprendizaje del léxico arquitectónico

RA184 - Meeting and discussions

RA185 - Exchanging information

RA186 - Analyzing and practising leadership skills

RA187 - Job interviews

RA188 - Analyzing and writing a CV

RA189 - Analyzing and writing cover letters, motivation letters

RA190 - Analyzing and writing abstracts

RA191 - Analyzing technical reports

RA192 - Summary writing

RA193 - Paragraph writing

RA194 - Developing an outlining

RA195 - Listening to lectures

RA196 - Listening to documentaries

RA197 - Listening to TED Talks

RA198 - Reading articles

* The Learning Guides should reflect the Skills and Learning Outcomes in the same way as indicated in the Degree Verification Memory. For this reason, they have not been translated into English and appear in Spanish.

6. Brief description of the subject and syllabus

6.1. Brief description of the subject

The aim of this course is to provide academic and professional communication skills in English, in the field of architecture, starting at a B2 level according to the classification of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). It is intended to improve the student's competitive ability in English to facilitate their subsequent access to the job market. The program includes: learning technical vocabulary, practicing debates on architectural topics, participating in workshops to help improve essay writing and oral presentations, etc. All these activities are developed both individually and in teams. The four English language skills are put into practice, following the recommendations of the CEFRL.

The course provides students with the necessary skills to introduce themselves as future professionals, and talk about the areas of expertise they would like to specialise in and the type of projects they would like to work on. It also prepares students for the job market and, particularly, provides them with the necessary tools to look for a job of their interest. Additionally, the course provides students with technical vocabulary about architecture and important guidelines to successfully describe architecture projects, both in a written way and orally.

6.2. Syllabus

1. English terminology for architects
 - 1.1. Linguistic competence (grammar and specific vocabulary)
2. Oral communication about architectural topics
 - 2.1. Listening and speaking, including oral presentations and job interviews
3. Written communication about architectural topics
 - 3.1. Academic writing
 - 3.2. Professional writing (résumés and cover letters)

7. Schedule

7.1. Subject schedule*

Week	Classroom activities	Laboratory activities	Distant / On-line	Assessment activities
1	Architectural vocabulary (ESP) Duration: 02:00 Additional activities		Architectural vocabulary (ESP) Duration: 02:00 Additional activities	
2	Architectural vocabulary (ESP) Duration: 04:00 Additional activities		Architectural vocabulary (ESP) Duration: 04:00 Additional activities	
3	Architectural vocabulary (ESP) Duration: 04:00 Additional activities		Architectural vocabulary (ESP) Duration: 04:00 Additional activities	
4	Architectural vocabulary (ESP) Duration: 04:00 Additional activities		Architectural vocabulary (ESP) Duration: 04:00 Additional activities	
5	Architectural vocabulary (ESP) Duration: 02:00 Additional activities		Architectural vocabulary (ESP) Duration: 02:00 Additional activities	Architectural vocabulary test on Moodle Online test Continuous assessment Not Presential Duration: 02:00
6	Fostering written skills in the field of architecture (academic and professional writing) Duration: 04:00 Problem-solving class		Fostering written skills in the field of architecture (academic and professional writing) Duration: 04:00 Problem-solving class	
7	Fostering written skills in the field of architecture (academic and professional writing) Duration: 04:00 Problem-solving class		Fostering written skills in the field of architecture (academic and professional writing) Duration: 04:00 Problem-solving class	
8	Fostering written skills in the field of architecture (academic and professional writing) Duration: 04:00 Problem-solving class		Fostering written skills in the field of architecture (academic and professional writing) Duration: 04:00 Problem-solving class	
9	Fostering written skills in the field of architecture (academic and professional writing) Duration: 02:00 Problem-solving class		Fostering written skills in the field of architecture (academic and professional writing) Duration: 02:00 Problem-solving class	Task: Professional Writing (résumé + cover letter) Individual work Continuous assessment Not Presential Duration: 02:00
10	Fostering written skills in the field of architecture (academic and professional writing) Duration: 02:00 Problem-solving class		Fostering written skills in the field of architecture (academic and professional writing) Duration: 02:00 Problem-solving class	Task: Architectural project description / Architectural essay Individual work Continuous assessment Not Presential Duration: 02:00

11	Fostering oral skills in the field of architecture (listening and speaking) Duration: 04:00 Cooperative activities		Fostering oral skills in the field of architecture (listening and speaking) Duration: 04:00 Cooperative activities	
12	Fostering oral skills in the field of architecture (listening and speaking) Duration: 04:00 Cooperative activities		Fostering oral skills in the field of architecture (listening and speaking) Duration: 04:00 Cooperative activities	
13	Fostering oral skills in the field of architecture (listening and speaking) Duration: 02:00 Cooperative activities		Fostering oral skills in the field of architecture (listening and speaking) Duration: 02:00 Cooperative activities	Listening test on Moodle Online test Continuous assessment Not Presential Duration: 02:00
14	Fostering oral skills in the field of architecture (listening and speaking) Duration: 04:00 Cooperative activities		Fostering oral skills in the field of architecture (listening and speaking) Duration: 04:00 Cooperative activities	
15	Oral presentations Duration: 04:00 Additional activities		Oral presentations Duration: 04:00 Additional activities	Oral presentations Group work Continuous assessment and final examination Presential Duration: 04:00
16				
17				

Depending on the programme study plan, total values will be calculated according to the ECTS credit unit as 26/27 hours of student face-to-face contact and independent study time.

* The schedule is based on an a priori planning of the subject; it might be modified during the academic year, especially considering the COVID19 evolution.

8. Activities and assessment criteria

8.1. Assessment activities

8.1.1. Assessment

Week	Description	Modality	Type	Duration	Weight	Minimum grade	Evaluated skills
5	Architectural vocabulary test on Moodle	Online test	No Presential	02:00	20%	5 / 10	CG 28.
9	Task: Professional Writing (résumé + cover letter)	Individual work	No Presential	02:00	20%	5 / 10	CG 27. CG 28. CG 11.
10	Task: Architectural project description / Architectural essay	Individual work	No Presential	02:00	20%	5 / 10	CG 4. CG 27. CG 28. CG 11.
13	Listening test on Moodle	Online test	No Presential	02:00	20%	5 / 10	
15	Oral presentations	Group work	Face-to-face	04:00	20%	5 / 10	CG 4. CG 9. CG 12. CG 27. CG 22. CG 21. CG 25. CG 13. CG 28.

8.1.2. Global examination

Week	Description	Modality	Type	Duration	Weight	Minimum grade	Evaluated skills
15	Oral presentations	Group work	Face-to-face	04:00	20%	5 / 10	CG 4. CG 9. CG 12. CG 27. CG 22. CG 21. CG 25. CG 13. CG 28.

8.1.3. Referred (re-sit) examination

Description	Modality	Type	Duration	Weight	Minimum grade	Evaluated skills
Final exam (July exam calls)	Written test	Face-to-face	02:00	100%	5 / 10	CG 4. CG 9. CG 12. CG 27. CG 22. CG 21. CG 25. CG 13. CG 28.

8.2. Assessment criteria

CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT

The continuous assessment will consist of three tasks and two tests:

1. Task: Professional writing (to be submitted via Moodle where students will find further instructions).
2. Task: Architectural project description / architectural essay (to be submitted via Moodle where students will find further instructions).
3. Task: Oral presentations (detailed instructions will be provided via Moodle).
4. Vocabulary test (multiple choice).
5. Listening test (multiple choice).

FINAL EXAM

The exam will be divided into 5 sections:

1. Terminology (2p): Exercise(s) about architecture-related specific vocabulary. There could be matching, multiple-choice or fill-in-the-gaps exercises.
2. Grammar (2p): Multiple-choice or fill-in-the-gaps grammar exercises.
3. Writing (2p): You will be asked to write either a cover letter/résumé applying for a real job offer or the description of a given architecture project.
4. Listening (2p): You will watch a video or listen to a recording twice, and you will be asked to answer a number of multiple-choice questions.
5. Speaking (2p): The oral test can include topics such as introducing yourself personally and professionally, answering job interview questions, or describing an architecture project.

9. Teaching resources

9.1. Teaching resources for the subject

Name	Type	Notes
Study material	Web resource	APLAI web tools.
Bibliographic resources and videos	Bibliography	Bibliography and videos related to the different study units
Classrooms and electronic devices	Equipment	A large space classroom with wifi connection will be needed to develop oral presentations and dynamic group activities.
Cumming, J. (1992). Nucleus, English for Science and Technology: Architecture and Building Construction. Longman Group.	Bibliography	
Downes, C. (2008). Cambridge English for Job-hunting. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.	Bibliography	

Hancock, M. (2003). English Pronunciation in Use. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.	Bibliography	
Hewings, M. and Thaine, C. (2012). Cambridge Academic English C1 Advanced Student's Book. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.	Bibliography	
Office of Career Services (2019). Resumes and Cover Letters. An Extension School Resource. Harvard University.	Bibliography	
Oshima, A. and Hogue, A. (2006). Writing Academic English, 4th edition. Pearson Longman.	Bibliography	
Archdaily	Web resource	Architecture projects. Available at https://www.archdaily.com/search/projects
Evans, V., Dooley, J., and Cook, D. (2013). Career Paths: Architecture. Express Publishing.	Bibliography	
BBC: The Sounds of English	Web resource	http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/oromo/features/the-sounds-of-english
Fosters + Partners Project Descriptions	Web resource	https://www.fosterandpartners.com/projects/

10. Other information

10.1. Other information about the subject

Note 1. The schedule follows a theme-modular planning. The order within the syllabus, regarding texts, oral presentation activities and other tasks may vary from course to course depending on the number of the students in the group and their specific interests.

Note 2. Tutorials may also change. Students will need to double-check tutorials with their lecturers at the beginning of each semester.

Note 4. The dedication of the lecturer per student in terms of time is based on the number of students per group.

Note 5. Class attendance is mandatory for continuous assessment (70-80%).

Note 6. Plagiarism will not be allowed under any circumstances and it will be penalized to the fullest extent.

Note 7. The acceptance criteria for students will be based on the following requirements:

7.1. No more than 50 students per group will be allowed.

7.2. The B2 certificate should be handed in at the ETSAM secretary in the required period of time (at least 5 days before the final exam takes place).