

Academic Year/course: 2021/22

26676 - Oral communication

Syllabus Information

Academic Year: 2021/22

Subject: 26676 - Oral communication

Faculty / School: 107 - Facultad de Educación

202 - Facultad de Ciencias Humanas y de la Educación

301 - Facultad de Ciencias Sociales y Humanas

Degree: 298 - Degree in Primary School Education

299 - Degree in Primary School Education

300 - Degree in Primary School Education

ECTS: 6.0

Year: 4

Semester: First semester

Subject Type: Optional

Module:

1. General information

1.1. Aims of the course

The main aim of the course is for students to improve their oral communicative competence in English, becoming more fluent and accurate in their communication with other speakers. Students are also made aware of and able to use different communication strategies and conversational skills when interacting with other speakers and with their future students. Finally, students become familiar with the specific features of oral discourse, and the extent to which they vary depending on the context and communicative situation.

1.2. Context and importance of this course in the degree

Although students taking the specialisation in English Language should already have an adequate level of English which enables them to express themselves fluently and correctly both in written and in oral form as future primary EFL teachers, this course together with English in Primary Education III, are planned to make students improve their competence in English. In this course in particular the focus is on the improvement of their monologic and dialogic oral skills.

1.3. Recommendations to take this course

Students are recommended to attend lessons and actively participate in the activities and tasks proposed. These will correspond to a B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). Students should also make the most of the resources and opportunities at hand to practise the language both inside and outside the classroom. At any rate, it is highly advisable to have passed the courses English in Primary Education I and II.

2. Learning goals

2.1. Competences

(GC 3) Effectively deal with varied learning situations in multicultural and multilingual contexts; foster the reading and critical analysis of texts from different scientific and cultural fields in the school curriculum; accurately express themselves orally and in written form and master the use of communication techniques and strategies in different knowledge areas

(TC 10) Develop the ability to communicate to teach in the mother tongue and in other European languages

(TC 14) Search for, manage, process, analyse and communicate information effectively, critically and creatively

(SC 11) Know the communication and interaction processes in the classroom

(SC 44) Understand basic language and communication principles

(SC 51) Face learning situations in multilingual contexts

(SC 52) Express themselves orally and in written form in a foreign language

2.2. Learning goals

In order to pass this course, learners should demonstrate that they are able to:

1. recognise and describe the distinctive features of oral discourse characterising different genre and communicative situations.
2. identify, represent and accurately produce English vowel and consonant sounds.
3. identify word and sentence stress and intonation patterns and features in English and to produce patterns which are appropriate for the communicative situation taking into account grammatical, pragmatic and discursive features.
4. analyse and use appropriate communication strategies in English.
5. orally express themselves and interact in English in a correct, fluid, intelligible manner in different communicative contexts and situations.
6. identify and appropriately use language and strategies (discursive, phonetic and expressive) in an oral presentation in English.
7. identify and use fluently, correctly and with good pronunciation the functions and structures commonly used in the primary EFL language classroom to explain, give instructions, provide meaning and interacting with their future students.

2.3. Importance of learning goals

It is essential that future primary EFL teachers are able to express themselves accurately and fluently in English and to be proficient in the use of oral discourse, especially in classroom communicative situations, since they will be models that their future students will imitate. In addition, being aware of the specific features, structure and conventions of oral discourse in different communicative situations and contexts will enable them to understand their implications for its teaching in the EFL primary classroom, which will be dealt with in other courses in the English Language specialization (Learning and teaching EFL, Planning effective teaching and Resources for EFL in primary school).

3. Assessment (1st and 2nd call)

3.1. Assessment tasks (description of tasks, marking system and assessment criteria)

Assessment activities

Student will have to show that they have achieved the expected learning outcomes via the following assessment activities:

- Pronunciation test (25%): Students will have to carry out a series of activities, such as reading aloud fragments written in English and/or in phonetic transcription, in order to show their English pronunciation accuracy.
- Oral presentation (20%): Students will give a short, formal, academic presentation in English on a subject agreed on with the lecturer.
- Role play (15%): Students will have to play the role of an English teacher at a Spanish primary school, performing a variety of functions, e.g. giving instructions to carry out concrete activities, establishing classroom rules, directing pair or group work etc.
- Conversation/interaction (10%): Students will have to maintain a conversation about a topic of personal and/or academic interest, answering the lecturer's and/or their classmates' questions.
- Questions about the contents of the course (30%): Students will have to answer short questions about the syllabus.

Assessment criteria

1. Oral presentation: pronunciation, stress, rhythm and intonation; voice projection, body language, fluency, independence from the script, accuracy, structure
2. Pronunciation test: adequate production of those phonemes that tend to be difficult for Spanish native speakers; correct stress, adequate rhythm and intonation
3. Oral in-class activities and role-play: use of adequate communication strategies; pronunciation, stress, rhythm and intonation; grammatical, lexical and discursive accuracy; fluency; correct use of the language functions/speech acts (definitions, descriptions, instructions, etc.) employed in an English classroom
4. Questions about the contents: understanding of the distinctive features and structure of oral discourse; appropriate analysis of adequate communication strategies depending on the context and the communicative situation; accuracy; correct identification of vowel and consonant sounds as well as stress, rhythm and intonation patterns; understanding and application of English spelling/pronunciation rules (i.e. the correspondence between graphemes and phonemes)

To pass the assessment activities, the student has to use the English language at a level of accuracy that corresponds at least to the B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

Assessment criteria and requirements to pass the subject

To pass the course, the students have to obtain a global score of at least 60%. In addition, they have to obtain a score of at least 50% in each of the individual parts. The weight of each part is the following:

- Pronunciation test (25%)
- Oral presentation (20%)
- Role-play (15%)
- Conversation-Interaction (10%)
- Questions about the contents (30%)

Overall test and second call

The assessment of the second exam sitting coincides in content and percentages with the assessment system of the first sitting. In the second sitting only the new results will be taken into account, pass marks from the first exam sitting will not be kept.

Fifth and sixth retake

In the fifth and sixth exam sittings, the assessment, the percentages and the minimum requirements are the same as in the other sittings. The students will be assessed by an exam committee.

4. Methodology, learning tasks, syllabus and resources

4.1. Methodological overview

The learning process of this course is based on the following:

The learning process follows the principles of the communicative approach for the teaching and learning of English as a foreign language. The aims should enable students to communicate orally in a variety of situations, especially in an academic context and in the classroom as future English teachers.

The course follows an active, participative and collaborative methodology. Students will play a central role and they should take responsibility for their own learning.

4.2. Learning tasks

The provided programme, which aims to help students achieve the planned results, consists of the following activities:

- Analysis of conversational structure, and of those features and conventions which regulate various interaction types in English.
- Monologic and conversational oral performance through activities related to different communicative types and situations.
- Pronunciation and intonation improvement through practice and explicit training.
- Ludic and drama activities to improve voice projection and body language, and to overcome stage fright.
- Practical analysis of classroom language through simulations by which students have to give explanations, instructions, provide meanings, etc.
- Enhancement of academic oral communication through formal presentations in the English language classroom.

4.3. Syllabus

1. English oral discourse: features, conventions and speech events
2. Communicating in English as a Foreign Language: communication strategies and conversational skills
3. Pronunciation: vowel sounds, consonants, stress, rhythm, and intonation
4. Classroom English: classroom routines and management
5. Academic oral communication: presentations
6. Knowledge of (the rules of) the correspondence between spelling and pronunciation in English, between the English phonemes and their conventional or habitual spelling, and also less common forms of orthography

4.4. Course planning and calendar

Key dates will be indicated through the digital platform used by the lecturer (Blackboard or Moodle) or in a written document that will be handed out to students at the beginning of the course. The dates of the final exams will be made available to students through the website of the different faculties.

4.5. Bibliography and recommended resources

<http://psfunizar10.unizar.es/br13/egAsignaturas.php?codigo=26676>