

Academic Year/course: 2021/22

30143 - English language IV

Syllabus Information

Academic Year: 2021/22

Subject: 30143 - English language IV

Faculty / School: 179 - Centro Universitario de la Defensa - Zaragoza

Degree: 563 - Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Organisational Engineering

ECTS: 6.0

Year: 4

Semester: First semester o Second semester

Subject Type: Optional

Module:

1. General information

1.1. Aims of the course

The aim of this course is to consolidate the B2 level, developing the oral and written communicative skills necessary to advance towards the C1 level. The general goals are as follow:

1. Develop the capacity of communication in English (Listening and Writing) according to B2 and C1 (basics) descriptors.
2. Boost the capacity to work autonomously through self-learning as well as the use of ITC (Information Technologies and Communication).
3. Foster the use of the English language as a tool to facilitate access other fields of knowledge, particularly focusing on the professional use of the English Language.
4. Discuss on general and professional topics such as SDG,s, Peace-keeping missions, armed forces in emergencies and disaster relief, etc.

These approaches and objectives are in line with most of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>). The acquisition of the course learning outcomes will contribute in a certain degree to these goals.

1.2. Context and importance of this course in the degree

Given the role of English in today's international settings, its use is essential for the education of Spanish Army Officers in almost any professional discipline. Aware of this fact, the CUD has decided to make English a key element of its syllabus, materialized in the 24 ECTS of language training designed in the Degree.

Lengua Inglesa IV seeks the consolidation of the B2 level and the initiation of the training for the C1 level. It is the fourth of a sequence of subjects (Lengua Inglesa I, Lengua Inglesa II, Lengua Inglesa III, and Lengua Inglesa IV) included in the four years of the Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Organizational Engineering. The common goal of the four subjects is help learners acquire linguistic proficiency in, at least, the B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages that is equivalent to the STANDARDIZED LANGUAGE PROFILE - SLP 2.2.2.2., according to (NATO's STANAG 6001, Ed. 5), and the Association of Language Centers in Higher Education (ACLES).

The use of English is an essential skill which affects all aspects of the students' future professional life. The goal is to provide the necessary tools and capacities to work in an international multidisciplinary environment, as is demanded by society. Furthermore, in the academic context, the subject will help to facilitate learning in other subjects taking into account that a large part of scientific and professional publications is written in English. It is therefore expected that after completing their degree, students will have acquired the linguistic competences to facilitate the development of their Undergraduate dissertation in English (bibliography, abstracts, oral presentations, etc.).

2. Learning goals

2.1. Competences

After passing the subject, the learner will be competent to;

1. Work in a multidisciplinary team in a multilingual environment.
2. Develop long-life learning and continuous assessment skills.
3. Communicate in English in their professional practice.

2.2. Learning goals

To pass this subject the learner must demonstrate the following skills:

1. Read and understand a variety of texts on different topics such as current news, literary, technology, and academic. Be able to summarize and comment on the content.
2. Understand a wide range of professional texts.
3. Write texts on a variety of general and professional topics, both in formal and informal contexts. Communicate in a written form in a variety of contexts: professional, informal, etc. adapting the text to the situation.
4. Write professional documents using formatted texts or standardized templates.
5. Understand the main ideas of a relatively complex discourse about known issues, and situations. Understand news, films, etc. Identify both the general message and the specific details.
6. Present clearly a professional topic for discussion, analyzing facts and data and providing conclusions.
7. Give a brief on topics related with the course content. Participate effectively in debates and discussions with native speakers and in multinational groups.
8. Use the terminology necessary for planning and conducting operations.
9. Be familiar with working documents in international organizations (MOU, TA, SOP, STANAG, etc.).

2.3. Importance of learning goals

The achievement of the aforementioned skills implies that the learner is proficient in the competences corresponding to the B2.2 Level and is able to advance towards the C1 level.

3. Assessment (1st and 2nd call)

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

The learning results may be measured according to the following activities and specs:

Evaluable tasks, including oral presentations and a proof of written expression of different types, scheduled throughout the semester. These tasks will represent the 20% of the grade.

Skill assessment. It will represent 80% of the grade and consists of two parts: a written test in which oral comprehension skills (25%), written comprehension (25%) and writing (25%) will be evaluated; and an oral production test (25%).

The final grade of the subject will result from the sum of the Skill Assessment (80%) and the evaluable tasks (20%).

a. Skill Assessment

- The Skill Assessment will consist of the evaluation of the listening, speaking, reading comprehension, and writing skills.
- The final grade of the course will result from the average of: oral presentation (20%), listening (20%), speaking (20%), reading comprehension (20%), and writing (20%). All tests must be taken to pass the course.
- The subject will be passed when the average of the skills is equal or above 60%, taking into account that every skill must be passed with at least 50%.

b. Final Assessment

- Any skill that has not reached at least 60% and the average of the five skills is lower than 60% must be repeated in the Final Assessment Evaluation.
- Any mark of 60% or above will be kept and only the parts of the final exam under 60% will be retaken in following sittings.
- Any student can take a complete Final Assessment in order to improve his/her marks. In this case, every skill final grade (%) will be the higher comparing the grade (%) of each skill obtained in the Final Assessment, and the average between the Final Assessment and the one of the corresponding skill in the previous Skill Assessment.

The final mark will be obtained from the average (percentage) converted to a "one-to-ten" scale with up to one decimal. An average of 60% means five (5), and 100% ten (10) in the final mark.

The tests will be programmed in the corresponding semester and students will be notified on an LMS.

4. Methodology, learning tasks, syllabus and resources

4.1. Methodological overview

Teaching can be carried out in-class; when not possible for medical reasons, it will be carried out online.

The learning process has been designed based on the following:

1. Presentation of subject contents and learning orientation by the teachers.
2. Development of interactive exercises programmed in class.
3. Steady growth of self-learning techniques, projects, data mining and research using original sources in English.
4. Writing and conversation tasks.
5. Use of audio-visual resources (movies, series, clips, podcasts, etc. in original version).

The course is practice-oriented. The learning process emphasizes the active engagement of students in the classroom, the development of individual and team tasks and activities, autonomous learning and assessed exercises.

4.2. Learning tasks

The course includes the following learning tasks:

Oral communication: Present and debate on a wide variety of topics including professional issues such as military operations using a model based on STANAG 2014. Discuss and explain complex issues such as Sustainable Development Goals (SDG,s) or current and past conflicts.

Written communication: Essays and written comments to articles of professional interest with a well-structured content and adapted to conventions and formats.

Presentations: Use Problem-Solving Techniques to present topics of professional (planning, battle studies, and decision-making) and general interest (current and past conflicts, SDG,s, etc.).

The teachers will announce the learning activities schedule through an LMS. Students can access the platform by logging in at <https://moodle.unizar.es/>

4.3. Syllabus

The course program will address the following grammar, lexicon, content, and functional topics that follow:

Grammar: Changes in regular grammatical structures, emphasis and changes in style (formal / informal) structures for ordering, suggesting and recommending. Two-word verbs.

Lexicon and thematic content: Lexicon linked to doctrine related to national defense, planning and decision-making in operations. Acronyms, abbreviations and slang.

Specialized Use: Language for Leadership and Management. Briefing and debriefing on military operations. Verbal and non-verbal communications.

Functions: Decision-making and problem-solving. Presenting dilemmas and proposing solutions. Analyzing facts and reaching conclusions.

4.4. Course planning and calendar

Schedule of lessons and assignments

The calendar of assignments will be announced in class, or through an LMS platform <https://moodle.unizar.es/>

The dates and schedules of the semester compulsory classes, the evaluation tasks programmed and the final exam can be consulted on an LMS platform (<https://moodle.unizar.es/>).

4.5. Bibliography and recommended resources

<http://psfunizar10.unizar.es/br13/egAsignaturas.php?codigo=30143>