



Course plan 2013-2014

## Language Seminar (English) (20261)

**Degree:** Degree in Translation and Interpreting

**Year:** third or fourth

**Term:** third

**ECTS credit value:** 4

**Total student study time (hours):** 100

**Course type:** Optional

**Lecture teacher:** Núria Gavalrà

**Seminar teachers:** Núria Gavalrà and Sheila Queralt

**Language of instruction:** English

### 1. Course presentation

Specific title: **Linguistic analysis of English texts with forensic and non-forensic applications**

Forensic linguistic comparison of English texts (such as anonymous texts, judgments, transcriptions of police interviews) which can be involved in a judicial process. The course is fundamentally oriented to the practical application of forensic English text comparison so as to be analysed in the context of expert witness work. This course is content-based, in the sense that the student will acquire knowledge on English linguistics by means of the analysis of the discourse of a wide variety of texts and videos related to the legal world.

### 2. Contents

1. The main judicial systems in the world
  - a. Civil law
  - b. Common law
2. Legal and courtroom discourse
  - a. The language of the judges
  - b. The language of witnesses
  - c. Police interviewing
3. Forensic linguistic mediation
4. Language as evidence
  - a. Forensic phonetics
  - b. Forensic authorship attribution
  - c. Plagiarism detection
  - d. Trademark and patent disputes