



Course plan 2013-2014

Language 5: English (21505)

Degree: Degree in Applied Languages

Year: Second

Term: Second and Third

ECTS credit value: 8

Course type: Basic Training

Language of instruction: English

1. General presentation

Throughout this two-term course, students will reflect upon English structures and linguistic functions, focusing particularly on interaction and sentence-level textual context. Students will review modality expressions in English, review advanced aspects of modification through adjective and adverbial phrases, and gain awareness of the principles that organize the flow of information (from sender to receiver) in written and spoken English discourse as well as the resources available (from sentence structure to sentence accent). By the end of the course, students are expected to achieve a C1 level of language competence as defined by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

2. Content

1. Expressing modality: review and advanced topics.
2. Adjective phrases: modifiers, intensifiers, discontinuous adjective and complement structures.
3. Adverbial phrases: form and meaning: using adverbials to enrich verbal and sentential descriptions; how position affects meaning; adverbs and the scope of negation; focus adverbs.
4. Argumentative relations: adversative, concessive, causal, additive, etc. Connectives.
5. Information packaging in English: basic concepts (given vs. new information, theme-rheme, weight).
6. Beyond the basic sentence structure: passives.
7. Beyond the basic sentence structure: extraposition.
8. Syntax and information packaging: preposing. Locative inversions.
9. Syntax and information packaging: clefts and pseudo-clefts
10. Information packaging: resources in spoken language (sentence accent, English-Catalan/Spanish contrastive aspects)