

DETAILS OF THE SUBJECT

Title: PRÁCTICAS DE CONVERSACIÓN

Code: 100546

Degree/Master: GRADO DE ESTUDIOS INGLESES

Year: 4

Name of the module to which it belongs: INGLÉS INSTRUMENTAL

Field: PRÁCTICAS DE CONVERSACIÓN

Character: OPTATIVA

Duration: FIRST TERM

ECTS Credits: 6

Classroom hours: 60

Face-to-face classroom percentage: 40%

Non-contact hours: 90

Online platform:

TEACHER INFORMATION

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SPECIFICS OF THE SUBJECT

REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Prerequisites established in the study plan

Pre-requisites established in the study plan

To have passed Instrumental English IV (English Studies Degree).

Recommendations

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Full-time attendance is essential for practicing and developing the oral communication skills of the English language.

CB1	Ability for analysis and synthesis.
CB2	Ability for organization and scheduling of work.
CB3	Knowledge of the foreign language (English).
CB4	Knowledge of ICT for study and research.
CB5	Students must possess the capacity to gather and interpret relevant information (usually in their field of study) in order to give opinions which include a reflection about relevant topics which are social, scientific or ethic in nature.
CB6	Students must transmit information, ideas, problems and answers to both specialised and not specialised publics.
CB7	Decision making.
CB8	Students must know how to apply their knowledge to their job or vocation in a professional manner and they must possess the competencies which are usually demonstrated by means of the elaboration and defense of arguments and the solution of problems in their field of study.
CB9	Ability for teamwork.
CB10	Ability to work in a team with interdisciplinary character.
CB11	Ability to work in an international context.
CB12	The acknowledgement of diversity and interculturality.
CB13	Ability to self-assessment.
CB14	Adaptation to new situations.
CB15	Creativity.
CB16	Knowledge of other cultures and habits.
CB17	Motivation for quality, professional ambition and entrepreneurship.
CB18	Students must demonstrate to possess and understand knowledge in a field of study which takes place from the base of the general secondary school, and it is common to find a level that, albeit it relies on advanced text books, also includes some aspects which imply knowledge from the forefront of its field of study.
CB19	Students must develop those necessary learning abilities to undertake subsequent studies with a high degree of autonomy.
CU1	To accredit the use and proficiency of a foreign language.
CU2	To know and improve the user level in the field of ICT.
CE1	Oral and written communication ability in the English language.
CE2	Ability to understand speeches in the English language.
CE3	Ability to understand long and complex texts, discerning distinctions of style and register, as well as specialised articles and long technical instructions.
CE4	Ability to receive, understand, analyse and transmit scientific production in English language.
CE5	Ability to express themselves fluently and spontaneously, by using the language flexibly and efficiently with a social and professional purpose.
CE8	Ability to respect the diversity and interculturality resulting from the exposure to different linguistic and cultural varieties related to English.
CE9	Ability for cooperation and collaboration in the learning process of the English language as a vehicle of international communication (lingua franca).
CE13	Command of oral and written academic English as well as the development of techniques of academic work. Ability to argue and express abstract concepts, assumptions and relationships in academic essays.
CE27	Participation in group learning activities: assignments, studies.
CE28	Participation in learning forums and transfer of acquired knowledge: news groups, blogs.
CE46	Development of the communicative competence regarding modern language in daily situations.
CE47	Ability for speaking, listening, reading and writing in a modern language.
CE48	Autonomous employment of the different methods and materials for modern language learning.

OBJECTIVES

The overall aim of this subject is to provide students with oral practice in the English language at an advanced level in order that they may reach a high proficiency level in the foreign language (C1-C2 proficiency level conforming to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages).

Specific aims include:

- 1) Be able to understand long speeches even when these are vaguely structured, and involve covert meaning relationships.
- 2) Be able to understand TV shows and films, as well as conversations by native speakers of the English

language.

- 3) Be able to give descriptions and talk about a given topic in a logically-sequenced, fluent and clear way, using an appropriate register which will depend upon the context.
- 4) Be able to speak English fluently and efficiently for social and specific/professional purposes, conveying the subtle nuances of meaning of a word or expression.
- 5) Be able to express opinions, and to convey them successfully to the hearer in a conversation.
- 6) Take active part in a conversation or debate, using idiomatic expressions and colloquial phrases in English.
- 7) Be able to use communication strategies to overcome difficulties (comprehension-expression-interaction).
- 8) Be able to handle communication situations by using the theory and practical knowledge about the English language in general, and the oral comprehension and communication skills of the foreign language in particular, which have been already acquired in previous courses.
- 9) Be able to employ the different communicative functions of the English language in formal/professional and informal contexts.

CONTENT

1. Theoretical content

1. Theory contents.

This subject aims to complement the contents and skills acquired in Instrumental English (I-IV), providing students with conversation practice in the English language at an advanced level. Students are expected to reach a C1-C2 proficiency level of English in their ability to understand messages and communicate orally in formal/professional, as well as informal contexts.

A. Communicative functions:

1. *About information: asking for and about information, giving information, remembering, reminding, checking, correcting.*

2. *About attitudes: expressing un/certainty, probability, making predictions, expressing curiosity, wishes, negative/positive feelings, likes & dislikes, preferences, approval, disapproval, comparing, assessing, asking & giving opinion, expressing agreement & disagreement.*

3. *About actions: Making, accepting & refusing offers; expressing duty & obligation, necessity, intention, ability to do something; asking for, giving, refusing permission & advice; suggesting, requesting, persuading, complaining, threatening, warning; expressing willingness, conditions, and refusal to do something.*

B. Social formulae:

To start and end conversations, to introduce oneself and others, greetings, wishing well, congratulating, inviting, offering, thanking, apologising, complementing, leave, taking, saying goodbye.

C. Strategies to facilitate and maintain communication:

Asking for clarification, checking comprehension, paraphrasing, exemplifying, showing interest, taking up a point, taking time to think, changing the subject, summing up.

D. Oral presentations:

Oral presentation stages, features, structure, skills, non-verbal communication and aids.

E. Discussions and debates:

Holding a discussion. Debate stages, features, structure, tips and aids.

2. Practical contents

2. Practical contents.

Conversation practice, debates and oral presentations focus on the following **topics**:

1. *Mind, Body and Health:*
2. *Development Through Life*
3. *Non-Verbal Messages*
4. *Interpersonal relationships*

The communicative tasks involve:

1. Oral interaction using the communicative functions and social formulae of the English language, as well as communication strategies, to facilitate and maintain a conversation in a formal/professional and informal context.
2. Academic oral presentations.
3. Discussions and debates.
4. Listening comprehension skills.

METHODOLOGY

Methodological adaptations for part-time students

Methodological adaptations for part-time students.

Officially enrolled as part-time students who cannot attend classes regularly will complete the practical contents by handing in video and audio files to the Professor. Students must follow the contents of the course, as well as contacting the Professor and completing the activities via Moodle.

Face-to-face activities

Activity	Large group	Medium group	Total
<i>Assessment activities</i>	-	5	5
<i>Debates</i>	5	3	8
<i>Group work (cooperative)</i>	7	3	10
<i>Lectures</i>	13	-	13
<i>Listening Activities</i>	5	4	9
<i>Oral presentations</i>	12	3	15
Total hours:	42	18	60

Not on-site activities

Actividad	Total
<i>Analysis</i>	20
<i>Exercises</i>	20
<i>Finding information</i>	20
<i>Self-study</i>	30
Total hours:	90

WORK MATERIALS FOR STUDENTS

Practical cases and examples
 Dossier
 Manual of the subject
 Video and audio files

Clarifications:

Clarifications:

Students will be recorded in class for pedagogical purposes. In order to be assessed, in addition, students will have to make their own recordings.

EVALUATION

Skills	Tools			
	Assignments and projects	Observation records	Oral tests	Tests to perform real and/or simulated tasks
CB1		X	X	
CB10				X
CB11	X	X	X	
CB12		X	X	X
CB13	X			X
CB14	X			X
CB15	X		X	X
CB16	X			X
CB17	X			X
CB18	X		X	
CB19	X		X	
CB2			X	
CB3	X	X		X
CB4	X			
CB5	X			
CB6	X	X	X	X
CB7	X			
CB8	X		X	X
CB9	X	X		X
CE1	X		X	X
CE13	X	X	X	X
CE2	X		X	X
CE27	X		X	X

CE28	x			x
CE3	x			x
CE4	x			x
CE46	x	x	x	x
CE47	x	x	x	x
CE48	x		x	x
CE5	x	x	x	x
CE8	x	x	x	x
CE9		x		x
CU1	x		x	x
CU2	x			
Total (100%)	30%	10%	30%	30%
Minimum grade.(*)	5	5	5	5

(*) Minimum grade necessary to pass the subject

What is the weight of the attendance in the final grade ?:

Value of attendance in the final grade:

Attendance to and active participation in the theory and practical sessions will be essential in order to obtain 10% of the final grade.

General clarifications on instruments for evaluation:

Minimum score to eliminate content and period of validity for partial qualifications:

Minimum of 5 in the tasks, oral tests and oral presentation to eliminate content and to calculate the average grade. Partial grades will be saved until September 2017.

General clarifications on evaluation and methodological adaptation for part-time students:

General clarifications on evaluation and methodological adaptation for part-time students:

Enrolling as part-time students is not advisable due to the practical nature of the subject. In order to be assessed, part-time students will have to:

-hand in a number of audio and video files (30%) to complement face-to-face practical sessions.

-make a final project: an academic oral presentation (40%).

-perform the final speaking test: an interview (30%). Students are expected to use the communicative strategies and functions of the English language (C1 proficiency level) appropriately. The interview will focus upon the topics dealt with during the course (see Practical Contents).

A minimum of 5 is required to pass each part.

Qualifying criteria for obtaining honors: *Matrícula de Honor will be given to students with a 9.5 grade in the oral tests and the oral presentation, and 90% of attendance.*

¿Hay exámenes/pruebas parciales?: *No*

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Basic Bibliography:

1. Basic Bibliography:

- Anderson, Kenneth et al. *Study Speaking: a course in spoken English for academic purposes*, Cambridge: CUP, 2004.
- Blundell, Jon, Jonathan Higgins & Nigel Middlemiss. *Function in English*, Oxford: OUP, 1982.
- Espeseth, Miriam. *Academic Encounters: Human Behavior (Level 4) 2nd ed*, Student's Book Listening and Speaking with DVD, Cambridge: CUP, 2012.
- Wallace, Michael. *Study Skills in English*, 2nd ed. Cambridge: CUP, 2004.

2. Further reading:

2. Further reading:

- Tillitt, Bruce & Mary Newton Brudder. *Speaking Naturally*, Cambridge: CUP, 1985.
- Porter Ladouse, Gillian. *Speaking Personally*, Cambridge: CUP, 1983.

Online Dictionaries:

- Cambridge Compact Dictionary (Spanish-English):

<http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/spanish-english/>

- Cambridge Learner's Dictionary (English):

<http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/learner-english/dynamic>

- Merriam-Webster Dictionary (English): <http://www.merriam-webster.com/>

COORDINATION CRITERIA

- Performing activities

Clarifications:**Clarifications:**

Students must attend the academic activities organised by the Faculty of Humanities or the Department of English and German Philology, such as conferences and/or showing English language films. English will be the only vehicle of communication

Attendance will be assessed.

The present subject will be coordinated with Instrumental English IV, conforming to the VERIFICA document of the English Studies Degree:

"La materia "Prácticas de Conversación" complementa los conocimientos y competencias adquiridos en las asignaturas de *Inglés instrumental* (I al VI), ofreciendo al alumnado prácticas de conversación en lengua inglesa a un nivel avanzado, que, partiendo de un nivel C1, podría llegar en algunos casos al nivel C2 en su capacidad de comprensión y expresión oral" (p. 37).

Furthermore, the present subject shares several competences (CB14, CB15, CB17, CB19, CU1, CU2, CE2,CE3, CE4, CE5, CE8, CE9, CE13, CE27, CE28, CE46, CE47, CE48) with Instrumental English IV.

SCHEDULE

Period	Activity					
	Assessment activities	Debates	Group work (cooperative)	Lectures	Listening activities	Oral presentations
1# Fortnight	0	1	1	2	1	0
2# Fortnight	0	1	1.5	2	1	1
3# Fortnight	0	1	1	1.5	1	5
4# Fortnight	0	1	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
5# Fortnight	0	1	1	1.5	1	3
6# Fortnight	0	1	1.5	1.5	1	1.5
7# Fortnight	1	1	1	1.5	1.5	2
8# Fortnight	4	1	1.5	1.5	1	1
Total hours:	5	8	10	13	9	15