UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

English

2324-1-E2005P001

Learning area

Learning Area 1: Study of the means whereby communication takes place

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

- General vocabulary and basic syntax of the English language
- Aspects of pragmatics in English: communicative functions and their realisation
- Analysis of the English language from a contrastive perspective with Italian

Ability to apply knowledge and understanding

- Ability to read and understand various types of texts in English at an intermediate level (to be defined according to the students' initial skills)
- Ability to produce short descriptive, expository and argumentative texts in English on topical issues dealt with in class; the level will be defined according to the students' initial skills.
- Ability to interact in writing in English, in synchronous and asynchronous mode, using digital tools.
- Being able to translate/interpret, in Italian and/or LIS, short texts in English, either written or spoken.

Contents

The course develops the knowledge and skills outlined above through the introduction of basic/intermediate vocabulary in mainly written form, thanks to the reading and viewing, with transcription into English, of relevant

videos. Parallel to the introduction of basic vocabulary and syntax for communicative purposes, principles of linguistic analysis aimed at highlighting typological differences between English and Italian will be provided. This knowledge will be applied to the practice of communicative skills in realistic situations. The second part of the course will be devoted to these.

Detailed program

• General English vocabulary (basic-intermediate level)
• English sentence syntax (basic-intermediate level)
• Semantic and pragmatic aspects of English (basic-intermediate level)
• Communicative functions
• Text types (basic-intermediate level) and their use in everyday communication
• Principles of contrastive analysis and translation
• Exercises in comprehension and textual production of mainly written texts.

Prerequisites

Prior knowledge of English language level B1 is desirable. Since a class with differentiated skills is expected, activities will be adjusted to the students' skills as assessed at the beginning of the course, bearing in mind that at the end of the course all students will have acquired the same skills.

Teaching methods

Assessment methods

Assessment will be carried out through the administration of a written test that will consist of a reading comprehension test and/or textual production. Students will be asked to be able to identify the syntactic structure of simple sentences and to translate them from English into Italian on topics covered during the course. The oral test is optional. Students who consistently follow the lectures and actively participate in group work may be exempted from part of the final examination.
The reading comprehension and textual production test is designed to ascertain the acquisition of the required level of communicative skills. The text analysis and translation test is aimed at assessing language skills in a contrastive key.
The assessment criteria are the following: adequacy of the lexical, syntactic, semantic and pragmatic skills acquired with respect to the expected language level; completeness of comprehension of the proposed texts; communicative effectiveness in written production; adequacy of the translation of the proposed sentences.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Detailed information about the teaching materials will be published on the e-learning page associated with the course.

Sustainable Development Goals

GENDER EQUALITY | REDUCED INEQUALITIES