

Code: L-LIN/12

Credits: 12

Matter: ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Main language of instruction: English

Other language of instruction: None

Teaching Staff

Head instructor

Prof. GEORGE MICHAEL RIDDELL george.riddell@unicusano.it

Dr. CRISTINA DE STEFANI cristina.destefani@unicusano.it

Introduction

1. Objective of the course :

The aims of the course are to provide students with the reading strategies and analytical tools necessary to decipher and understand a wide variety of text types on subjects associated with their study programme, depending on faculty.

Objectives

2. Course Structure:

The course is divided into two parts:

the first lessons of the new programme outline the strategies needed to decipher meaning and to understand the structure of sentences and paragraphs. Lessons are devoted to inferring meaning from context, on the lexical aspects such as collocation and compounding, on sentence structure, on grammatical and lexical cohesion within a text, and also on American usage and the specialised language of newspapers.

The second part of the course consists of a series of texts specific to the faculty concerned, with examples of the type of comprehension questions that students can expect to meet in the written exam.

Competencies:

By the end of the course, students should have acquired the ability to use specific reading strategies to enable them to understand text-types related to their course of study.

Syllabus

3. Programme of the course:

PART ONE

1. a. Introduction
b. Inferring from Context
2. a. Lexical Units
b. Collocation
c. Compound Words
3. a. Sentence Structure
b. Transition Signals
c. Paragraphs
4. a. Lexical Cohesion
b. Grammatical Cohesion
5. a. Reading newspaper headlines
b. American English
6. a. Reading a Text 1
b. Reading a Text 2

PART TWO

7. Examples of Reading Comprehension
8. Texts 1 – 2
9. Texts 3 – 4
10. Texts 5 – 6
- 11: Texts 7 – 8

Evaluation system and criteria

The written examination for 12 credits contains four of the texts from the eight indicated on the platform. The exercises consist of reading comprehension questions, such as true/false or questions related to knowledge of vocabulary. For the reduced programme (4 to 6 credits) the exam consists of two texts chosen from the first four on the platform.

Students can also opt to take the oral exam at the central campus in Rome, where they will be asked to discuss in English one of the eight texts, chosen by the examiner (for the reduced programme, one of the first four texts).