



Course guide

240634 - 240634 - Written Communication in English: the Bachelors'S/Master's Thesis

Last modified: 15/06/2023

Unit in charge: Barcelona School of Industrial Engineering
Teaching unit: 756 - THATC - Department of History and Theory of Architecture and Communication Techniques.
Degree: BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2010). (Optional subject).
Academic year: 2023 **ECTS Credits:** 4.5 **Languages:** English

LECTURER

Coordinating lecturer: Marta Aguilar i Pérez
Others: Viladot Duelo, Marta

PRIOR SKILLS

Students must have studied English in secondary education or possess equivalent competence. The course will completely be given in English so students should be able to understand and communicate (orally and in writing) in English. Having a minimum level equivalent to B.2.2 (First Certificate) is strongly recommended to succeed.

REQUIREMENTS

Students should preferably possess a B.2.2 level (Upper intermediate), or higher.

DEGREE COMPETENCES TO WHICH THE SUBJECT CONTRIBUTES

Transversal:

1. SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING. Detecting gaps in one's knowledge and overcoming them through critical self-appraisal. Choosing the best path for broadening one's knowledge.
3. THIRD LANGUAGE. Learning a third language, preferably English, to a degree of oral and written fluency that fits in with the future needs of the graduates of each course.
4. TEAMWORK. Being able to work as a team player, either as a member or as a leader. Contributing to projects pragmatically and responsibly, by reaching commitments in accordance to the resources that are available.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

- Theory explanation. Analysis of good and examples of good praxis.
- Project building and problem-solution. From the research questions, structure, developing and writing the final degree or master thesis in English in the field of engineering.
- Task-based. Carry out shorter and simpler tasks to practise and improve the strategies, techniques and contents covered in class.



LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THE SUBJECT

Aims:

- Assist learners in the process of writing an accurate and honest end-of-degree research project/master's thesis.
- Provide learners with good practice which will enable them to write an abridged version of their research.

Intended Learning Outcomes:

To identify academic and technical register within the field of Engineering, and apply its conventions to the production of one's end-of-degree research project/master's thesis.

To demonstrate good practice when searching, gathering, and using information and knowledge.

To organise coherent discourse within the IMRD research structure, i.e. Introduction, Methodology, Results, and Discussion.

To write an abridged version of one's end-of-degree research project/master's thesis using the appropriate register, and clear, coherent, grammatically accurate ideas.

To proofread and edit the final submission ensuring academic honesty and rigour, whereby all sources are acknowledged and referenced.

STUDY LOAD

Type	Hours	Percentage
Self study	67,5	60.00
Hours medium group	45,0	40.00

Total learning time: 112.5 h

CONTENTS

Module 1 - PRE-WRITING

Description:

Basic considerations. The degree /master thesis gener and the research article gener in engineering.

The technical and academic register in English.

Thesis Statement and Purpose

Information search and gathering.

Structuring the information according to the IMRD sections.

Outlining

Full-or-part-time: 41h 30m

Practical classes: 25h

Self study : 16h 30m

Module 2 - WRITING

Description:

- Note-making/-taking

- Honestidad y rigor académico

- Academic/technical discourse

- Paragraph structure

- Coherence and cohesion

- Logic and argumentation

- Citation of sources of information

Full-or-part-time: 1h

Practical classes: 1h



Module 3 - POST-WRITING

Description:

- Revising and editing i editing
- Peer-review
- Redrafting

Full-or-part-time: 2h

Theory classes: 2h

Module 4 - VIVA

Description:

- Viva: Oral summary
- Additional materials

Full-or-part-time: 1h

Practical classes: 1h

GRADING SYSTEM

Final exam: 50%

Continuous assessment: 50%

Writing tasks in class

Short oral summary in class

EXAMINATION RULES.

The final exam and all tasks are in English.



BIBLIOGRAPHY

Basic:

- Swales, John; Feak, Christine. Academic Writing for Graduate Students. 3rd ed. Ann Arbor: Michigan University Press, 2012. ISBN 9780472034758.
- Swales, John; Feak, Christine. English in today's research world : a writing guide. Ann Arbor: Michigan university press, 2000. ISBN 0472087134.
- Weissberg, Robert; Buker, Suzanne. Writing up research : experimental research report writing for students of English. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1990. ISBN 0139708316.
- Lannon, John M. Technical Communication [on line]. 15th ed. Harlow: Pearson, 2021 [Consultation: 30/03/2023]. Available on: <https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.recursos.biblioteca.upc.edu/lib/upcatalunya-ebooks/detail.action?pq-origsite=primo&docID=6504034>. ISBN 9781292363646.
- Pallant, Anne. English for academic study : writing. New edition. London: Garnet Education, 2012. ISBN 9781908614391.
- Porte, Graeme. The Tools of writing : advanced sentence and paragrah writing in English as a foreign language. 2nd ed. Granada: Editorial Comares, 1999. ISBN 9788481519860.
- Alley, Michael. The Craft of Scientific Writing [on line]. 4th ed. New York: Springer, 2018 [Consultation: 29/03/2023]. Available on: <https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.recursos.biblioteca.upc.edu/lib/upcatalunya-ebooks/detail.action?pq-origsite=primo&docID=5327233>. ISBN 9781441982889.
- Bombardó, C.; Aguilar, M.; Barahona, C. Technical writing : a guide for effective communication [on line]. 2a ed. Barcelona: Edicions UPC, 2007 [Consultation: 12/09/2022]. Available on: <https://upcommons.upc.edu/handle/2099.3/36667>. ISBN 9788483019276.
- Gerson, Sharon J.; Gerson, Steven. Technical communication: Process And Product [on line]. 8th ed. Essex: Pearson, 2014 [Consultation: 22/04/2020]. Available on: <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/upcatalunya-ebooks/detail.action?docID=5174345>. ISBN 9781292024653.
- Glasman-Deal, Hilary. Science research writing for non-native speakers of English. London: Imperial College Press, 2010. ISBN 9781848163102.

RESOURCES

Other resources:

Plenty of online resources will be uploaded to ATENEA