UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE CATALUNYA
BARCELONATECH

Course guide
280598 - 280598 - Professional Communication for Engineers

Last modified: 27/01/2024

Unit in charge: Barcelona School of Nautical Studies
Teaching unit: 756 - THATC - Department of History and Theory of Architecture and Communication Techniques.

Degree: BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN MARINE TECHNOLOGIES (Syllabus 2010). (Optional subject).
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN NAVAL SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2010). (Optional subject).

Academic year: 2023 **ECTS Credits:** 3.0 **Languages:** English

LECTURER

Coordinating lecturer: CLAUDIA BARAHONA FUENTES

Others: Segon quadrimestre:
CLAUDIA BARAHONA FUENTES - DT, GESTN, GTM

PRIOR SKILLS

In order to carry out academic and professional activities in English, it is recommended that students have acquired level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages â□□â□□(CEFR) or higher.

DEGREE COMPETENCES TO WHICH THE SUBJECT CONTRIBUTES

Transversal:
CT6. GENDER PERSPECTIVE: An awareness and understanding of sexual and gender inequalities in society in relation to the field of the degree, and the incorporation of different needs and preferences due to sex and gender when designing solutions and solving problems.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The course consists of: participatory classes, participation in role-plays and simulations, autonomous learning through task and problem solving, and independent learning of theoretical content.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THE SUBJECT

Familiarise students with spoken and written professional and technical communication and enable them to communicate effectively in English in authentic situations proper of their workplace settings.
Help students develop a range of professional communication skills, equipping them for a range of careers in bi- and multilingual and multicultural environments, thus familiarising students with intercultural competence.
Help students deal with job applications to prepare an effective resume, cover letter and job interview.
Acquaint students with persuasive communication (elevator pitch) to effectively outline and communicate an idea for a product, service or project.
Familiarise students with a production process: from understanding various processes and how a company is structured; to drawing up product specifications and negotiating with suppliers.

STUDY LOAD

Type	Hours	Percentage
Hours large group	30,0	40.00
Self study	45,0	60.00

Total learning time: 75 h

CONTENTS

MODULE 1. GETTING A NEW JOB IN AN ENGINEERING COMPANY

Description:
This first module will familiarise you with various relevant aspects of the job application process: job ads, cover letters, CVs, and job interviews. Going through the selection process is difficult, so you will have to work to present yourself as the best candidate. Thus, you will have to be aware of important elements and possible problems in professional applications and job interviews; practice vocabulary and phrases relevant to a job interview; and use appropriate grammatical and discursive structures relative to the job search.

Full-or-part-time: 25h
Theory classes: 10h
Self study : 15h

MODULE 2. LAUNCHING A NEW PRODUCT

Description:
In Module 2, you will face your first challenge in the engineering company. You've been assigned the development of the company's new product. You're part of a team in charge of the design and development process of (the product). You'll start by brainstorming and sketching your product before you present your prototype to the company's general management board in order to convince them to manufacture the product. Thus, you will have to learn about the stages involved in the product development process: brainstorming, market research and comparison with competitors, and assessing feasibility.

Full-or-part-time: 25h
Theory classes: 10h
Self study : 15h

MODULE 3. DEVELOP AND MAKE

Description:
Your product proposal has been approved by management. In this module, it will go through a production process to be developed and manufactured. Thus, Module 3 will take you through the following stages: from understanding various processes and how a company is structured; through to the initial outsourcing process; to drawing up product specifications; then to negotiating with suppliers all around the world to order parts; launching production; and lastly making the final presentation of the product to your Board of Directors.

Full-or-part-time: 25h
Theory classes: 10h
Self study : 15h

GRADING SYSTEM

The final mark is the result of the following assessment activities:
Nfinal = 0,25 Npf + 0,25 Nti (Module 1)+ 0,25 Npo (Module 2)+ 0,25 Nac (Module 3)

- Nfinal: final mark
- Ntf: final assignment
- Nac: continuous assessment
- Nti: assignments and reports

The final assignment consists of questions associated to the course learning objectives, concerning knowledge or comprehension, and of practical and applied tasks with long answers.
The assignments and reports can be individual or cooperative activities, which could be carried out inside the classroom or as homework. These assignments include written documents and an oral presentation (Modules 1 and 2).
The continuous assessment tasks (Module 3) consist of different brief activities carried out during the module.

EXAMINATION RULES.

If any of the classroom tasks or continuous assessment tasks is not carried out, the task will not be marked.
A student will receive the final mark of "Absent" if he/she does not carry out at least a 75% of the course assessment activities.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Basic:
- Downes, Colm; McGarr, Patricia. Cambridge English for job-hunting. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008. ISBN 9780521722155.

RESOURCES

Other resources:
Course materials in Atenea from the European project I-BEE-VR ERASMUS+ KA2, "An immersive Business and Engineering English through Virtual Reality”