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

Coordinating unit: 240 - ETSEIB - Barcelona School of Industrial Engineering
Teaching unit: 756 - THATC - Department of History and Theory of Architecture and Communication Techniques

Academic year: 2018
Degree: BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2010). (Teaching unit Optional)
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN MATERIALS ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2010). (Teaching unit Optional)
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2010). (Teaching unit Optional)
ECTS credits: 4,5
Teaching languages: English

Teaching staff
Coordinator: Marta Aguilar i Pérez

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 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.
2. 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.
3. 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 already written samples.
-Project building and problem-solution. From the research questions, structure, developing and writing the final degree or master thesis in English.
-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

Identify and recognise the technical and academic register in English to write a degree or master thesis within the engineering discipline. Gather, organise and structure information coherently and with clarity according to the genre requisites of Introduction, Method, Results, Discussion (IMRD) sections so that the project suits the research questions and goals. Apply the necessary steps involved in the revision of the document in order to achieve an accurate and as correct as possible final version at the end of the process. At the end of the course, students should be able to write and develop an abridged version of a final degree or master thesis in English, using the appropriate style and tone, and in such a way that ideas are clear, coherent and grammatically correct.
### Study load

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total learning time: 112h 30m</th>
<th>Hours large group: 0h 0.00%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hours medium group: 45h</td>
<td>40.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hours small group: 0h</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guided activities: 0h</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self study: 67h 30m</td>
<td>60.00%</td>
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## Content

### Module 1 - PRE-WRITING

**Learning time:** 45h 50m  
Practical classes: 28h 20m  
Self study: 17h 30m

**Description:**  
Basic considerations. The degree /master thesis genre and the research article genre in engineering. The technical and academic register in English. Choosing the topic of the thesis and information gathering. Structuring the information according to the IMRD sections.

### Module 2 - WRITING

**Degree competences to which the content contributes:**

**Description:**  
Drafting. Usual techniques and patterns to structure and develop paragraphs. Structuring paragraphs, organising information, linking ideas with coherence (linking expressions). Apply the techniques in every section and progressively write the thesis: abstract, introduction, method, results and discussion.

### Module 3 - POST-WRITING

**Degree competences to which the content contributes:**

**Description:**  
Polishing and revising. Structural, stylistic and grammatical revision.

### Module 4 - INDIVIDUAL JOURNAL and COLLABORATIVE PORTFOLIO.

**Degree competences to which the content contributes:**

**Description:**  
Students will progressively create a portfolio (teams of 2) with the versions and rough copies they have written, following the teacher's feedback, until they obtain a final copy of the document. Likewise, students will also take note of their individual writing process as they write their degree /master thesis.

## Qualification system

- Final exam. 50% of the final mark. Individual.  
- Continuous Assessment (50%). Writing and submitting the sections in a thesis (in teams of 2), both at home and in class. Orally deliver a short summary in front of their classmates.
Regulations for carrying out activities

The final exam and all tasks are in English. In the final exam, students will be able to have with them an outline with all subheading within every section in the thesis. Given that continuous evaluation accounts for 50% of the final mark, and that many tasks will be done in class in teams of 2 people, attendance and active participation are strongly recommended because they will be conducive to the acquisition of contents and achievement (success) in the course.

Bibliography

Basic:


