GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2026-2027

Scientific Communication in English (C002668)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2027-2028

A (semester 2)	English	Gent	independent work
			seminar

Lecturers in academic year 2027-2028

Jacobs, Geert	LW06	lecturer-in-charge
Rosselle, Mieke	LW06	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2027-2028	**crdts**	**offering**
Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry and Biotechnology	5	A
International Master of Science in Soils and Global Change (main subject Soil Ecosystem Services and Global Change)	5	A
Exchange programme Faculty of Sciences (bachelor's level)	5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

academic English, language acquisition, communication skills, vocabulary, grammar

Position of the course

This course aims to strengthen students' communication skills in English within an academic context. It offers an introduction into a number of essential academic communicative skills and it aims to expand their knowledge of grammar and vocabulary with a view to a wide range of academic needs. There is also a unit on 'applying for a job'.

Contents

The following three skills are central within an academic context:
- writing
- reading
- speaking

Within these three skills, this course focuses on structure, style, vocabulary, idiomatic grammatical constructions, and specific aspects like citing, paraphrasing and plagiarism. Students learn how to make linguistic choices based on discipline and genre. Students also learn to how use resources for academic English. Additionally, there is a unit on 'applying for a job'.

Initial competences

The students' level of English should correspond to that of the final objectives for pupils at the end of secondary school in Flanders (CEF: B1).

Final competences

1 The students can communicate effectively in English in an academic context (written and oral).
2 They have enhanced skills in reading and listening for academic English.
3 The students can communicate effectively in English when applying within their field of study (written and oral communication).
4 They are able to use tools to support their learning process in line with integrity (incl. responsible use of AI where relevant).

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Class attendance is strongly recommended and, at times, mandatory as part of the continuous assessment (please check the semester schedule in Ufora). Classes are interactive and require some preparation from the students. Classes are not streamed or recorded.

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: slides
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no

Type: Handouts

Name: handouts
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no

References

Course content-related study coaching

Teachers as tutors: the students are coached in their process of autonomous learning. Students also provide peer feedback on spoken and written assignments in the interactive seminars.

Assessment moments

continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Skills test, Participation, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Continuous assessment of:
1 oral and written skills (formal and informal academic texts)
2 academic vocabulary and grammar knowledge

Calculation of the examination mark

100% permanent evaluation.

Facilities for Working Students

Please consult the instructor.