

English: Business and Public Communication II (A005964)

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

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2) Dutch, English Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

De Clerck, Bernard	LW22	lecturer-in-charge
Chan, David	LW22	co-lecturer
De Waele, Aurélie	LW22	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages(main subject Applied Language Studies)	5	A
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English)	5	A
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)	5	A
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)	5	A
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	5	A
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)	5	A
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)	5	A
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Turkish)	5	A
Exchange Programme Applied Language Studies	5	A

Teaching languages

English, Dutch

Keywords

English, business communication

Position of the course

The study unit "English: Business and Public Communication II" aims to train students adequately in the use of the communicative tools that are mainly used in internal and external communication in companies and organisations. The student learns to use these communicative tools and skills in flawless written and spoken English. The study unit has a double goal: teaching and fine-tuning the skills that are mainly used in communication of companies and organisations in general and in the foreign language in particular.

Exchange students may take up this course unit, for which no prior knowledge of Dutch is required. C1-level English is expected.

Contents

In the course unit 'English: business and public communication II' (E4C2), a number of frequently used organisational communication techniques are taught and applied in simulations and concrete settings via practically-oriented assignments. The course unit is conceived as a communication project that integrates various communication techniques, both oral and written. Communication techniques that can be covered include meeting, presenting, negotiating, strategic correspondence

and crisis communication, drafting information brochures and/or company magazines, webcare, online communication and communicating via social media, storytelling, etc. Concrete communication techniques and settings will be further explained in the course of the lectures. Picking up on recent developments in generative AI, reflection on and use of AI tools in some of the assignments is also included.

Initial competences

The student:

- has acquired the final objectives of the Bachelor in Applied Language Studies
- is able to produce English texts of more than average difficulty, as found in professional contexts
- is able to communicate orally in English in a number of professional contexts (C1-level)
- is able to put the appropriate heuristic aids to adequate and critical use.

Final competences

- 1 Having a command of English at C2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages for oral skills (production and interaction) and writing skills. [MC. 1.1, assessed]
- 2 Independently and creatively conceptualising and producing English texts in professional communicative contexts (including reports and strategic correspondence of companies and (inter)national organisations). [MC 1.1, MC. 6.1, MC. 6.2, MC. 6.4.; assessed]
- 3 Acquiring a thorough insight into professional contexts and relevant aspects of intercultural communication. [MC. 4.1assessed, MC. 6.3, assessed];
- 4 Communicating professionally and correctly in highly-demanding spoken communicative contexts such as meetings, negotiations and informative or persuasive presentations and/or in contexts of language training with a thorough understanding of intercultural aspects. [MC. 1.1, M.C. 6.1., MC. 6.2, MC. 6.3, MC. 6.4, assessed]
- 5 During the communication process, making use of traditional and electronic resources, as well as specific technological tools. [MC. 6.6, assessed].
- 6 Managing the communication process within the set time boundaries, thanks to sound planning and adequate stress and time management, both independently and as part of a team. [MC. 6.7, assessed]
- 7 Students are able to critically use and assess AI and AI output [assessed]

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

Students put communicative tactics and skills into practice through written and oral communication assignments.

For the written assignments, students are given writing assignments during class in which some principles and rules of the specific genre (e.g., crisis communication, staff magazine, storytelling, etc.) must be applied (with or without an imposed time limit). In writing assignments, students are guided individually and feedback is organised via peer review and electronic correction of submitted papers via the learning platform. This is applied within the corporate communication and storytelling modules.

For oral assignments, role-plays and simulation exercises (e.g. negotiation, product presentations) are used, which are subject peer review by the lecturer and peers.

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Handouts

Name: Handouts

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Available on Ufora : Yes

References

Koch, T., Vogel, J., Denner, N., & Encarnacao, S. (2018). Voice of the management or employee advocate? How editors of employee magazines see their professional role. *Corporate communications: an international journal*, 23(1), 51-65.

Bentley, J. M. (2015). Shifting identification: A theory of apologies and pseudo-apologies. *Public relations review*, 41(1), 22-29.

Fischer, R., W. Ury & B. Patton. 1991. Getting to yes. Negotiating agreement without giving in. Sydney: Century Business.

Crespo, C. F., Ferreira, A. G., & Cardoso, R. M. (2023). The influence of storytelling on the consumer–brand relationship experience. *Journal of Marketing Analytics*, 11 (1), 41-56.

Course content-related study coaching

Exercises in class

Individual assessment and feedback per assignment.

Extra feedback during office hours

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

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

First session:

Assignment (100%): Consists of a portfolio which comprises (oral and written) assignments; class attendance is required

Second session:

Assignment (50%): a modified portfolio is submitted

Oral examination (50%)

Calculation of the examination mark

Assignment (100%):

Consists of a portfolio which comprises (oral and written) assignments; class attendance is required

Final mark is based on the marks allotted to each of the individual assignments after feedback has been processed. 50% written, 50% spoken

Second session:

Assignment (50%): a modified portfolio is submitted

Oral examination (50%)

Facilities for Working Students

1 Possibility to be exempted from attendance

1 Possibility to be exempted from classes and have an alternative assignment instead (with extra information regarding assignment). To be discussed with lecturer.

2 Possibility to be exempted from certain classes (with extra information regarding compulsory lectures)

1 Regarding possibility to reschedule exam:

1 Possible to reschedule portfolio submission

1 Possibility regarding feedback

1 Possibility to get feedback via e-mail, via telephone, during or after office hours (by appointment).

Students with a special status, please consult: <https://www.ugent.be/prospect/en/administration/application/special-status>