

English: Language Practice C (A703036)

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 2023-2024

A (semester 1)

Dutch, English

Gent

seminar

independent work

Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024

Buelens, Liisa

LW06

staff member

Chan, David

LW22

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024

crdts

offering

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)

5

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)

5

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)

5

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)

5

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)

5

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Turkish)

5

A

Exchange Programme Applied Language Studies

5

A

Linking Course Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages, Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages and Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)

5

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Linking Course Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages, Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages and Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)

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Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages, Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages and Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)

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Teaching languages

English, Dutch

Keywords

English, writing skills, translation Dutch-English

Position of the course

English Language Practice C hones the skills trained in English Language Practice A and B:

- Writing skills classes aim to foster students' understanding of complex texts in a range of genres (reviewing, argumentative writing, academic abstracts). Students learn to analyse contents and formal features and integrate them into their own writing.
 - The subunit translation Dutch-English practises the translation of short, non-specialised texts and fragments, with special attention being given to correct grammatical and idiomatic usage
- Exchange students may take up module E2PC_SC only. No prior knowledge of Dutch is required for this unit.

Contents

The unit of study English Language Practice C (E2PC) consists of the following parts:

Writing Skills (E2PC_SC)

Translation Dutch-English (E2PC_NE)

E2PC_SC: The Writing Skills sub-unit focuses on developing comprehension and competence in the handling of various textual features: essential versus redundant information, text structure, cohesion, accuracy, brevity, clarity, appropriate style, academic register and copyright. The main genres addressed are: argumentative essay and the academic abstract. Electronic and other heuristic tools are also integrated into class practice.

E2PC_NE: In translation practice the emphasis is on the correct use of grammar, idiom, linking words, prepositions etc. in the translation of short texts or text fragments on general topics and on international politics. Attention is also given to English language usage and the use of parallel texts. The approach is partly thematic (concentrating on translation difficulties like tense and modality, linking words, adverbs versus adjectives etc.), partly linear. A further aim of this component is to enhance students' active vocabulary, with a special focus on confusibles and false friends.

Initial competences

The final objectives of the different English units of study of the first bachelor year.

Final competences

- 1 Having a command of English, at C1 level or at least B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages for comprehension (listening and reading), oral skills (production and interaction) and writing skills. [B.1.2; assessed]
- 2 Having a strong language awareness in English and developing a sensitivity to the similarities, differences and interactions between cultures. [B.3.1; assessed]
- 3 Critically reflecting on their own thinking, learning, decisions and actions. [B.3.3; not assessed]
- 4 Based on acquired competences, acting correctly and tactfully in different communicative situations, based on an understanding of similarities, differences and interactions. [B.5.2; assessed]
- 5 Adequately interpreting, analysing, assessing and correcting English written and oral communication, including messages of a specialised nature. [B.6.1, assessed]
- 6 Adequately interpreting, analysing, assessing and correcting English written and oral communication, including messages of a specialised nature. [B.6.1, assessed]
- 7 Editing text independently in English (reviews, essays, abstracts) and assessing it critically, thereby justifying the text type appropriate to the purpose, target group and media. [B.6.2, assessed]
- 8 Having knowledge of relevant dictionaries, reference works and electronic aids, using them adequately and efficiently, and critically evaluating them. [B.6.5, not assessed]

- 9 Independently translating text of average difficulty from Dutch into English [B.6.4.;assessed] [B.3.1.;assessed]
- 10 During translation into English, editing text to adjust it to text type, purpose, target group and medium. [B.6.2.; assessed]
- 11 Having knowledge and understanding of text production and translation processes. [B1.6.; not 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

Writing skills and translation practice are taught in seminars (18.75 hours for each module). Students are also required to complete a number of writing tasks at home (independent work). Translation classes consist of active translation practice with feedback. Some translations are assessed and commented on individually.

Learning materials and price

Books:

- E2PC_SC: WREN Writing in English. Advanced English writing skills for Dutch speakers (D. Chan, L. Jookan, P. Robberecht, Academia Press, 2022) purchased for E1PB_SC (€56)
- Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English [latest edition]. London: Longman (€48)

Learning platform:

- Additional exercises and class information.

Other:

- E2PC_SC: handouts
- E2PC_NE: vocabulary list N-E with examples of usage in context; list of Dutch prepositions in context and their English translation, hand-outs with texts and background information (€3)

References

Austin, T. (2003). *The Times style and usage guide*. London: HarperCollins.

Ayto, J. & Simpson, J. (2010). *The Oxford Dictionary of Modern Slang*. Oxford University Press.

Blake, G. & Bly, R. W. (2006). *Elements of business writing*. Pearson Longman.

Burrough-Boenisch, J. (2004). *Righting English that's gone Dutch*. 2nd edition. Voorburg: Kemper Conseil Publishing.

Cory, H. (1999). *Advanced Writing with English in Use*. Oxford University Press.

Cutts, M. (2013). *Oxford guide to plain English*. 4th edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Fowler, H. R. & Aaron, J. E. (2011). *The Little, Brown handbook*. 12th edition. Longman.

Hacker, D. (1995). *A writer's reference*. Bedford Books of St. Martin's Press.

Hamp-Lyons, L. & Heasley, B. (2006). *Study writing. A course in writing skills for academic purposes*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Hannay, M. & Mackenzie, J. L. (2009). *Effective writing in English. A sourcebook*. Bussum: Uitgeverij Coutinho.

Levin, P. (2009). *Write great essays! 2nd edition*. Open University Press.

Murray, N. (2012). *Writing essays in English language and linguistics. Principles, tips and strategies for undergraduates*. Cambridge University Press.

Oshima, A. & Hogue, A. (2006). *Writing academic English*. Pearson Longman.

Ritter, R.M. (2002). *The Oxford guide to style*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Swan, M. (2005). *Practical English usage*. 3rd edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Warburton, N. (2007). *The basics of essay writing*. London: Routledge.

Williams, J. & Bizup, J. (2014). *Style: lessons in clarity and grace*. 11th edition. Longman.

Course content-related study coaching

All lecturers can be contacted during weekly office hours.

Additional writing exercises, with model solutions, are available from the electronic learning platform. Students can also take part in forum discussions on the learning platform.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Written assessment

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

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Final examination (55%)

Written exam (55%)

E2PC_SC (25%): academic abstract, optional use of a monolingual dictionary.

E2PC_NE (30%): translation of a new text, using monolingual dictionaries.

Assessed tasks (45%)

E2PC_SC (25%)

Student essay writing skills are assessed on the basis of an essay assignment completed in class. Students that do not submit this task will be marked 0 for continuous assessment.

E2PC_NE (20%)

Assessment here will involve the translation of various texts relevant to topic themes covered on the course.

SECOND SESSION

See first session. The assessed tasks will be scheduled before the end of the second semester.

Calculation of the examination mark

See heading 'explanatory note to the evaluation methods'

Facilities for Working Students

Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance.

The examination can be rescheduled.

Feedback by email or by appointment.

Addendum

E2PC