

English: Language Practice D (A703037)

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

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings in academic year 2025-2026

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

crdts

offering

Teaching languages

English, Dutch

Keywords

phonetics, vocabulary, speaking skills

Position of the course

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"English: Language Practice D (E2PD) builds on the skills acquired in previous language practice course units. Its aims are:

- 1) Encourage the students' critical awareness of their own and others' speaking performance.
- 2) Encourage the student to actively work on weak points in pronunciation, intonation, stress, etc.
- 3) Encourage the student to think critically on issues presented, consider contrasting points of view, arrive at their own considered opinion.
- 4) Develop key skills for discussion/debate: well-reasoned argumentation; effective use of examples/evidence; consideration of interlocutor(s); expressing ideas/opinions with precision and nuance.
- 5) Provide the students with the means to broaden and deepen their vocabulary (active fluency/precision and passive knowledge of less common, nuanced terms).
- 6) Broaden students' cultural knowledge via texts of cultural value.

Contents

"English: Language Practice D" comprises the following components:

- phonetics (E2PD_F0)

After a revision of the major difficulties related to individual speech sounds (students

are expected to have a ready knowledge of IPA symbols and key terms in phonetics/phonology), the main focus of the phonetics classes is on 'connected speech' (weak forms, assimilation, stress, intonation). The course also considers the pronunciation of some formal or academic terms that might present difficulties, and devotes some attention to the cultural and regional aspects of pronunciation.

- speaking skills (E2PD_SP)

Students develop a broad range of active verbal language use in both formal and informal contexts. Fluency, accuracy and precision are practised alongside critical thinking and argumentation skills. Students participate in group discussions and presentations on a range of topical issues.

- vocabulary (E2PD_W0)

Vocabulary is mainly conceived as a self-study course. Each week, students expand their vocabulary by independently exploring a broad range of items (academic

words, subject-specific terminology, as well as a series of idioms). Students gain an understanding of aspects concerning English lexis (collocations, synonyms, false friends, word formation, prepositions, phrasal verbs, regional variation etc.). During classes, students are given opportunities to practise using words in context together with their peers.

Initial competences

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

Final competences

- 1 Having a command of English at C1 level of the CEFR for oral skills (pronunciation) and vocabulary, in as far as the competences of English: Language Practice C have been acquired [B.1.2; assessed]
- 2 Having a strong language awareness in English [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 oral communication, including messages of a specialised nature. [B.6.1; assessed]
- 6 Expressing oneself in complex communicative situations in English appropriate to the purpose, target group and media. [B.6.3; assessed]
- 7 Having knowledge of relevant dictionaries, reference works and electronic aids, using them adequately and critically evaluating them. [B.6.5; not assessed]
- 8 Having knowledge and understanding of English culture as reflected in a number of literary and other classics. [B.1.5; 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, Practical, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

E2PD_FO: practicals. Pronunciation practice, assimilation, intonation, transcription. Use of the language lab and/or of online and paper resources. Take-home assignments with individual, peer and in-group feedback.
E2PD_SP: students practise skills in class/online setting. Independent work carried out in preparation for presentation tasks.
E2PD_WO: guided self-study, seminars.

Study material

None

References

See references in the syllabus and hand-outs.

Course content-related study coaching

Consultation hour, e-mail, support via Minerva.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment, Written assessment

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

Oral assessment, 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 in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Periodic evaluation (30%)

E2PD_FO: oral exam-SP (10%)

E2PD_SP: oral exam (20%)

Non-periodic evaluation (70%)

E2PD_FO: assessed tasks (20%)

E2PD_SP: assessed task (10%)

E2PD_WO: assessed tasks (30%)

Project (SP/FO/WO): 10%

Calculation of the examination mark

First session

E2PD_FO (30%): oral exam-SP (10%), assessed tasks (20%)

E2PD_SP (30%): oral exam (20%), assessed task (10%)

E2PD_WO (30%): oral exam-SP (5%), assessed tasks (25%)

Portfolio (SP/FO/WO): (10%)

Second session

For FO, SP, WO (assessed tasks 50%): marks for assessed tasks can be carried over to the second session. Assessed tasks to be (re)submitted where required standard not met. Oral examination 50%.

Facilities for Working Students

Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance

The examination can be rescheduled

Limited feedback can be given by email, or during an appointment during office hours

More information:

E2PD_FO, E2PD_SP and E2PD_WO essentially involve guided practice. Students not attending the seminars and practicals should be aware that this will be to their disadvantage.

Addendum

E2PD