ECTS Syllabus

Course title	English for academic purposes				
Course code	SPGH-307 ITGH-307				
Course type	Required				
Level	1st Cycle				
Year / Semester	3st Year / Spring				
Teacher's name	Prof. Paola Attolino Prof. Beatriz Valverde				
ECTS	6	**Lectures / week**	3	**Laboratories / week**	0
Course purpose and objectives	The main objective of this course is to develop students' proficiency in English for Academic Purposes (EAP) in both oral and written forms, with particular emphasis on formal and intercultural communication contexts. The course aims to equip students with the analytical and practical skills required to communicate effectively in English in academic and professional settings, including interactions with international peers, researchers, and professionals from diverse cultural backgrounds. In addition, the course seeks to foster intercultural competence by encouraging critical reflection on cultural differences and communication practices. Students will learn to apply these skills in realworld professional contexts, with a specific focus on healthcare environments, where effective, culturally sensitive communication is essential. By the end of the course, students will be able to use English confidently and appropriately to engage in academic discourse, collaborate across cultures, and respond thoughtfully to the communicative challenges of global professional practice.				
Learning outcomes	After completion of the course students are expected to be able to: 1. Integrate information to generate new knowledge of Global Health, locate, use, evaluate and synthesize public health information 2. Communicate information and results, in both oral and written forms, and through a variety of media, to different audiences 3. Produce research reports, presentations and policy briefs 4. Use English for Specific Purposes in health politics and policy to negotiate meaning, express informed viewpoints, and respond constructively in academic and professional discussions. 5. Demonstrate interdisciplinary approaches, theoretical perspectives and critical thinking to analyze global health challenges 6. Apply ethical and empathetic communication strategies in healthcare-related academic and professional scenarios, recognising the importance of clarity, respect, and cultural sensitivity.				

Prerequisites	None	**Required**	Yes
Course content	1. Applied and Professional Communication in Global Health • Core concepts, challenges, and best practices in intercultural communication within global health • Understanding cultural norms, empathy, and context in international healthcare and policy • Communication strategies for NGOs, public institutions, and private organizations in global health • Negotiating meaning, expressing viewpoints, and providing constructive feedback in professional and policy contexts • Oral communication skills: presentations, debates, and collaborative discussions in intercultural settings 2. Academic Writing: Text Types and Structure • Overview of academic and professional text types and structures • Paragraph-level skills: topic sentences, coherence, cohesion, and linking devices • Textual modes: narration, description, explanation, argumentation, and persuasion • Adapting texts to audience, purpose, and context 3. Writing Process and Text Production • Stages of writing: idea generation, planning, outline, drafting, revising, and editing • Research methods, material collection, and effective outlining • Producing clear, coherent, and properly referenced academic and professional texts 4. Functional Styles in Academic English: Bachelor's Thesis Writing • Functional styles and conventions of academic English for undergraduate research • Structure and language of thesis components: introduction, literature review, methodology, analysis, discussion, conclusion • Stylistic features: precision, clarity, hedging, and cohesion • Related academic genres: abstracts, research proposals, summaries, and formal correspondence 5. Scientific, Analytical, and Globally Informed Communication • Scope, genres, and purposes of scientific and analytical texts • Language tools for presenting data, evidence, and structured argumentation • Writing informational and analytical documents for health, policy, and organizational contexts • Ethical, culturally sensitive, and globally aware communication, including awareness of World Englishes and varieties of English in academic and professional writing		
Teaching methodology	The course may include a range of teaching and assessment methods, including lectures, seminars, workshops, case study, simulations, or group discussions.		
Bibliography	• Bennett, M. J. (2013). *Basic concepts of intercultural communication: Paradigms, principles, and practices* (2nd ed.). Intercultural Press.		

	• Canagarajah, S. (2013). *Translingual practice: Global Englishes and cosmopolitan relations.* Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203073889 • Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches* (5th ed.). SAGE. • Crystal, D. (2019). *The Cambridge encyclopedia of the English language* (3rd ed.). Cambridge University Press. • Hyland, K. (2019). *Academic discourse: English in a global context* (2nd ed.). Bloomsbury Academic. • Kirkpatrick, A. (2007). *World Englishes: Implications for international communication and English language teaching*. Cambridge University Press. https://doi.org/10.1017/CBO9780511610902 • McLean, F. (2010). *Professional English in use: Medicine (C1)*. Cambridge University Press. • Nutbeam, D., Harris, E., & Wise, M. (2010). *Theory in a nutshell: A practical guide to health promotion theories* (3rd ed.). McGraw-Hill. • Salmon, C. T. (Ed.). (2013). *Communication yearbook 37*. Routledge. • Scollon, R., Scollon, S. W., & Jones, R. H. (2012). *Intercultural communication: A discourse approach* (3rd ed.). Wiley-Blackwell. • Swales, J. M., & Feak, C. B. (2012). *Academic writing for graduate students: Essential tasks and skills* (3rd ed.). University of Michigan Press. • Thompson, T. L., Parrott, R., & Nussbaum, J. F. (Eds.). (2011). *The Routledge handbook of health communication* (2nd ed.). Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203846063 • Valero-Garcés, C. (2025). *Health, communication and multicultural communities*. Cambridge Scholars Publishing. • World Health Organization. (2017). *Communicating risk in public health emergencies*. WHO Press.
Assessment	The course will include formative and summative assessment methods, including continuous assessment, case study and practical work as well as oral and written exams.
Language	English