English language 2

Prof.ssa Catherine M. Cronin

Aims

After initial revision to consolidate the B2 level, this course will continue to develop students' language competence in terms of accuracy but giving greater attention to range, style and appropriacy of language. Whereas previously the emphasis was on gaining control of the most important structures and lexical items, this year the aim is to go a step further towards achieving greater fluency in order to reach a C1 level.

By focusing on a variety of challenging, complex language areas, both in vocabulary and in grammar structure, students will improve their ability both to recognise more complex language in translation and interpreting activities and also to produce well-structured discourse and text themselves.

As a response to the students' request to work towards compiling a glossary, focus will be placed on lexical groups which are relevant to specific study areas, e.g. tourism..

As was the case last year, students will be able to decide whether to attend the 15 optional practice hours of the 60 hours total. Given that the level C1 involves many new structures and lexis, students will be encouraged to attend all the hours as before.

By the end of the course, students should have increased their range of vocabulary considerably and make more informed decisions regarding appropriacy and style. They will therefore be able to use language more flexibly for professional and academic purposes and express themselves more precisely and more confidently.

In addition, in this context of translation studies, an aim of the second-year course is to develop awareness of the relationship between language and culture and the significance of register.

Content

Grammar/sentence structure/writing skills

Verb patterns - Reporting verbs/infinitive or gerund.
(inc. revision of reported speech).
Tense review –active and passive voice inc. the impersonal passive Revision of 'if' clauses and introduction to Conditional variants Relative clauses
Inversion for emphasis
Position of adverbs
Discourse markers/Connectors
How to write a discursive essay

Reading and speaking skills development

The aim is to integrate language skills wherever possible, for example speaking or writing in response to listening or reading. Texts will be selected from mainly journalistic sources with a view to class discussion as well as vocabulary extension. In some cases the text will introduce the topic for a written assignment.

Vocabulary

Word Formation cont.
Gradable/Ungradable Adjectives & intensifiers
Phrasal verbs cont.
False friends
British and American differences
Introduction to idioms

Exam

Written and Oral - For the 'Lingua Inglese II exam, students must prepare a written production, a discursive essay.

For the oral, students prepare and present a topic of their choice.

Bibliography

Michael Vince (2014) Language Practice for Advanced 4th edition with Key. Macmillan Additional photocopied material to be handed out in class (for example newspaper articles and from the books below).

Felicity O'Dell e Michael Black *Cambridge English Advanced Trainer 2° edition C.U.P.* L. Hashemi & B. Thomas *Cambridge IELTS trainer C-U.P* Liz and John Soars New Headway Advanced O.U.P

Recommended (for reference):

Michael Swan (2005) Practical English Usage O.U.P.

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