

STUDY GUIDE

English language and communication 3

Organised by

University of Catania
Department of Humanities

1. IDENTIFYING DATA.	
· Course Name.	English language and communication 3
· Coordinating University.	University of Catania, Department of Humanities

· Partner Universities Involved.	-	
· Course Field(s).	English language and linguistics and communication studies	
· Related Study Programme.	Three-year undergraduate degree course in Communication Studies and Languages	
· ISCED Code.	????	
· SDG.	4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equality), 10 (Reduced inequalities)	
· Study Level.	(B, third year)	
· EUNICE Key Competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green – strongly • Orange - moderately • Red – partially • Blank cell - not at all 	
	Problem solving	
	Teamworking	
	Communication	
	Self-management	
	Cognitive flexibility	
	Digital competence	
	Technical competence	
	Global intercultural competence	

· Number of ECTS credits allocated.	6
· Mode of Delivery.	Onsite and online live (Microsoft Teams)
· Language of Instruction.	English
· Course Dates.	1 March – 31 May (second semester)
· Precise Schedule of the Lectures.	Two two-hour classes per week
· Key Words.	English, linguistics, communication
· Catchy Phrase.	English – means (of) communication

· Prerequisites and co-requisites.	CEFR B1 in English
· Number of EUNICE students that can attend the Course.	9
· Number of EUNICE students that can attend the course per institution	1
· Course inscription procedure(s).	Through EUNICE Platform Registration through Microsoft Teams

2. CONTACT DETAILS.

· Department.	Department of Humanities (DISUM – Dipartimento di Scienze Umanistiche)
· Name of Lecturer.	Iain Andrew HALLIDAY
· E-mail.	iain.halliday@unict.it
· Other Lecturers.	--

3. COURSE CONTENT.

The course will illustrate the main characteristics of spoken English and, at the same time, of contemporary media talk. To achieve this aim, after a necessary introduction, the course will rely on a number of examples taken from two English varieties, namely:

-*Telecinematic dialogue*, i.e. English spoken in films and TV series, a register which is interesting from a linguistic point of view in that – among other things – it originates in writing but is designed and performed as speech.

-*Media talk*, i.e. English spoken on the radio and on TV. The course will highlight the distinctive linguistic features and trends in contemporary media talk by looking at media environments such as radio phone-in programmes, televised interviews with politicians, news programmes, etc., and also by drawing comparisons with spontaneous conversation.

The topics of the course will be illustrated by means of a variety of examples taken from films, TV series, radio and TV programmes.

The course is complemented by the language practice classes taught by the C.E.L. staff (Collaboratori ed Esperti Linguistici).

4. LEARNING OUTCOMES.

According to the Dublin descriptors, students, at the end of the course, will demonstrate:

1) Knowledge and understanding

Students will familiarise themselves with the main characteristics of, and tendencies in, spoken English and English media talk.

2) Applying knowledge and understanding

Students will be able to apply their knowledge and understanding. In particular, they will acquire the know-how for analysing spoken English and English media talk both linguistically and meta-linguistically.

3) Making judgements

Drawing on the knowledge and skills acquired in the course, students will develop the ability to interpret the typical characteristics of spoken English and English media talk and to reflect on these two varieties autonomously.

4) Communication skills

The level of linguistic competence students are expected to attain is C1 under the *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages* (C.E.F.R.; http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/linguistic/source/framework_en.pdf).

5) Learning skills

Students will develop the learning skills they need to go on with their university career, both in terms of contents and in terms of methods.

5. OBJECTIVES.

See 4. above

6. COURSE ORGANISATION.

UNITS

1. See 3. above

2. -

3. -

4. -

LEARNING RESOURCES AND TOOLS.

Set texts
PLANNED LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND TEACHING METHODS.
Lectures with some class participation, limited group work

7. ASSESSMENT METHODS, CRITERIA AND PERIOD.

1. Mid-term or end-of-course assessment
The mid-term or end-of-course assessment (optional) will focus on the linguistic analysis of spoken English. If the assessment is passed, the topics covered in it will be considered as acquired and therefore will not be included among the questions in the oral exam. The assessment will be graded on a scale from 18 to 30 cum laude (18 being the minimum passing mark). Students who intend to sit the assessment are strongly advised to attend the course regularly.

2. Written exam
The written exam, aimed at verifying the achievement of C1 level proficiency, will consist of listening comprehension exercises, use of English exercises, and the writing of a composition.

3. Oral exam
The oral exam, to be conducted entirely in English, will consist of an oral exam with the lecturer, aimed at assessing the candidate's knowledge and analytical skills with regard to the course content. The final grade will take into account the marks obtained, respectively, in the mid-term or end-of-course assessment, the written exam, the oral exam with the lecturer. Assessment of the exam will be based on mastery of the content and the skills acquired, linguistic accuracy and lexical appropriateness, as well as the candidate's argumentative ability.

Examples of typical questions and/or exercises
Below is a list of possible topics to reflect on in preparation for the oral exam. The items listed should be understood as models/examples of questions, not as an exhaustive list of what will be asked during the oral exam:

- What are the main linguistic features and trends of conversational English?
- What are the main linguistic features and trends of spoken English in media contexts?
- What are the main differences between conversational English and spoken English in the media?
- What functions does dialogue perform in media contexts?

OBSERVATIONS.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND TEACHING MATERIALS.

-Biber, Douglas et al. 2021. *Grammar of Spoken and Written English*. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins. Chapter: 14, The grammar of conversation, pp. 1031-1120. This chapter will be made available via Studium.

-Kozloff, Sarah. 2000. *Overhearing Film Dialogue*. Berkeley/Los Angeles/London: University of California Press. Chapter: 1, The functions of dialogue in narrative film, pp. 33-63. This chapter will be made available via Studium.

-Zago, Raffaele. 2016. *From Originals to Remakes. Colloquiality in English Film Dialogue over Time*. Acireale/Roma: Bonanno Editore. Chapter: 2, Features of film dialogue, pp. 55-66. This chapter will be made available via Studium.

-Quaglio, Paulo. 2009. *Television Dialogue: The Sitcom Friends vs. Natural Conversation*. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins. Chapter: 6, Emotional language, pp. 87-105. This chapter will be made available via Studium.

-O’Keeffe, Anne. 2006. *Investigating Media Discourse*. London/New York: Routledge. Chapters:
1, Introduction, pp. 1-13;
3, Review of methodologies for analysing media discourse, pp. 32-61;
4, Managing the discourse, pp. 62-89;
5, Creating and sustaining pseudo-relationships, pp. 90-126.