



COURSE DATA

DATA SUBJECT

Code: 36656
Name: Professional English for journalists
Cycle: Undergraduate Studies
ECTS Credits: 4.5
Academic year: 2025-26

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1334 - Degree in Journalism	Facultat de Filologia, Traducció i Comunicació	3	First quarter
1334 - Degree in Journalism	Facultat de Filologia, Traducció i Comunicació	4	First quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1334 - Degree in Journalism	Optatividad	ELECTIVES
1334 - Degree in Journalism	Optatividad	ELECTIVES

COORDINATION

COPERIAS AGUILAR MARIA JOSE

SUMMARY

The aim of this optional subject is to equip students with the vocabulary, structures, expressions, and both oral and written fluency in English required to carry out professional tasks in the field of information and communication.

This training supports the need for global, ethical, and responsible communication aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly:

SDG 4: Quality Education, by providing solid linguistic training for future professionals.

SDG 5: Gender Equality, through the promotion of inclusive language and awareness of diversity in communication.

SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, by fostering intercultural competence and accessible communication in diverse contexts.

SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, by preparing future journalists and communicators to contribute to a more transparent, informed, and democratic society.



PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

It is recommended that students have an English proficiency level equivalent to B1.

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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Que los estudiantes sepan aplicar sus conocimientos a su trabajo o vocación de una forma profesional y posean las competencias que suelen demostrarse por medio de la elaboración y defensa de argumentos y la resolución de problemas dentro de su área de estudio

Que los estudiantes tengan la capacidad de reunir e interpretar datos relevantes (normalmente dentro de su área de estudio) para emitir juicios que incluyan una reflexión sobre temas relevantes de índole social, científica o ética

Students can transmit information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialized and non-specialized audiences

Students have demonstrated that they possess and understand knowledge in an area of study that forms the basis of general secondary education and is usually at a level that, while supported by advanced textbooks, also includes some aspects that involve knowledge from the forefront of their field of study.

Students should be able to defend a culture of peace and respect for the fundamental human rights within the processes of communication, specifically in regards to equality between women and men in all types of communication (informative, interpretative, semiotic, dialogic and opinion).

Students should be able to express themselves fluently and effectively in their own languages, as well as in a third language (preferably English), taking advantage of the linguistic and literary resources that are most appropriate for the different forms of media.

Students should be able to search for, select, read, interpret and analyse both written and audiovisual texts and documents (analytically, synthetically and critically).

Students should be able to work as a team, communicate their own ideas and integrate themselves into group projects aimed at achieving results.

Students should have an understanding of own and other social, historical, economic and cultural aspects within their relevant contexts.

Students should have initiative, creativity, credibility, honesty, leadership spirit and responsibility, both personally and professionally.

Students should show solidarity with people across the planet, as well as knowledge of the main cultural currents in relation to individual and collective values and respect for human life.



DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. Study of specific vocabulary

Throughout the course, students will work on the specialised vocabulary used in different journalistic media: print press, television, magazines, radio and professional communication. Emphasis will be placed on understanding and using field-specific terminology in both real and simulated news contexts, tailored to the conventions of each format.

2. Explanation of journalistic techniques and expressive forms

Students will be introduced to the main grammatical and discursive structures used to narrate and present news stories, including the past simple, past continuous, present and future tenses. Different journalistic registers ¿ informative, descriptive and opinion-based ¿ will be analysed, and expressive techniques such as writing brief news items, reporting events or creating profiles and feature articles will be practised.

3. Analysis of journalistic texts across different media

Students will read, listen to and analyse brief, adapted texts from newspapers, magazines, newscasts and documentaries. Activities will foster critical comprehension of journalistic discourse, helping students identify main ideas and relevant information, and interpret language based on medium, audience and context.

4. Presentation and comprehension of audiovisual journalistic discourse

Oral comprehension will be developed through the viewing and analysis of audiovisual materials such as news broadcasts, interviews, podcasts and radio programmes. Students will practise active listening, pronunciation and intonation, and develop their oral expression through short presentations, simulations and the creation of content in English. The course will also explore the role of visual and sound elements in shaping multimodal journalistic discourse.

This content plan will be reflected in the following learning outcomes:

- Use general and specific English vocabulary, as well as its basic grammatical and syntactic structures, applied to the field of information and communication.
- Operate with basic communication discourses in English.



- Associate the information provided by written and audiovisual media expressed in English, and compare the styles and approaches of the information they convey.

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theoretical and practical classes	45,00
Total hours	45,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	20,00
Independent study and work	15,00
Preparation of lessons	20,00
Preparation for assessment activities	12,50
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	67,50

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

- MD2 - Practical classes
- MD3 - Debate classes
- MD8 - Autonomous work and study
- MD9 - Group work and study

The teaching methodology of the course is focused on the practical and functional learning of English in the field of journalism. There are no separate theoretical classes; instead, grammatical and lexical explanations are introduced as needed for their correct application in real communicative contexts. The main activity centers on active language practice through the reading of texts about the media in English, with special attention to vocabulary and structures, which are then practiced. Listening to English-language radio and television news programs is also included, with the goal of understanding the most important information and discussing the content.

Participation in oral debates in English on current affairs and media-related topics is another key component. Additionally, students work on writing short pieces, such as news reports or opinion texts, related to communication in English. Specific exercises in vocabulary, pronunciation, and grammar are also carried out, aiming to achieve intonation and fluency characteristic of professional English.

Students take an active and participatory role, simulating communicative situations typical of journalism, which enables them to develop the necessary skills for effective communication in English within this field.



EVALUATION

First call

MODE A: Evaluation for students who regularly attend class

- Assessment of participation in classroom debates and analysis: 20%
- Individual and/or group assignments (portfolio): 60%
- Evaluation exercises and problem-solving activities: 20%

Portfolio: Students will be assigned various tasks throughout the semester. These activities must be submitted regularly on the established dates. They will be corrected and returned to the students.

At the end of the semester, students may be asked to submit a complete portfolio including all activities carried out.

Regarding oral activities, students will be assessed based on their participation in classroom discussions and scheduled debates. In case of doubt, a one-on-one interview with the professor may be required to assess oral proficiency.

Attendance is not mandatory and is not scored; however, it will be monitored to determine who qualifies for evaluation under Mode A.

This mode is available only for the first examination session. Any student who disagrees with the grade obtained under Mode A may take the written and oral exam (Mode B) without exhausting the call.

MODE B: Evaluation for students who cannot attend or regularly participate in class

It is mandatory to complete and submit a dossier with the activities assigned during the sessions. This dossier is required in order to take the written and oral exam.

Evaluation criteria (% of the final grade):

- Dossier with classroom activities (portfolio): 60%



- Written and oral exam: 30%
- Attendance at and benefit from tutorials: 10%

Both the written and oral exams will be based on the activities, vocabulary, and structures worked on during the semester.

According to Royal Decree 1125/2003 and the University of Valencia's grading regulations for undergraduate degrees, a minimum score of 5 out of 10 is required to pass each activity and the final grade.

Second call

The course may be retaken during the second examination session through a written and/or oral test.

If the student passed the portfolio (with a score equal to or greater than 5) in the first session, this grade will be carried over to the second session without needing to resubmit the dossier. Only the failed part (exam or specific tests) must be repeated.

This system applies to both Mode A and Mode B, provided the established requirements are met.

Academic Integrity

Intellectual honesty is essential in academic communities and necessary for a fair evaluation of student work. All assignments submitted in this course must be original. Work that includes fraudulent collaboration, including the use of artificial intelligence (such as ChatGPT or similar tools), will not be accepted.

If plagiarism is detected in any evaluative assignment, the work may receive a score of zero, resulting in a failed session, regardless of any disciplinary procedures and sanctions that may apply according to current legislation.

Other serious offenses, which may lead to immediate disqualification from the session, include copying or facilitating the copying of assignments among students, irregular access to or early acquisition of exam content, manipulation or destruction of results or content of evaluable activities, and impersonation during exams. If any such offenses are detected, the instructor must report them to the degree coordinator.

The general grading system will follow the regulations of the University of Valencia, approved by the Governing Council on May 30, 2017. ACGUV 108/2017

REFERENCES



Basics

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McLoughlin, L. (2000). *The language of magazines*. Routledge.

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Watson, J., & Hill, A. (2006). *Dictionary of media and communication studies* (7th ed.). Hodder Arnold.

Watson, J., & Hill, A. (2012). *Dictionary of media and communication studies* (8th ed.). Bloomsbury Academic.

Complementaries

Dictionary of media studies. (2006). Bloomsbury Publishing.

Franklin, B., Harmer, M., Hanna, M., Kinsey, M., & Richardson, J. E. (2005). *Key concepts in journalism studies*. Sage Publications.