M1- ESP lecture2

**COURSE DESIGN**

**What is course design ?**

**What do we need to design a course?**

**What are the stages?**

**What are the main features of a course?**

**- Learnability**

It is crucial to design the learning content and materials according to a certain continuum of difficulty starting by simpler information and reachable objectives. Some structural and lexical aspects of language are easier to learn by students. Thus, learnability is one of the most important criteria to save learners’ motivation and keep a positive attitude towards the course in general. (ex: am/is/are VS 3rd type conditional)

**- Frequency**

Designers must take into account the frequency of occurrence of certain language items. Frequently used and needed items must be favoured and discussed broadly and take a larger amount of time. However, other aspects of language, or less used and needed items must not be ignored, especially if they occur and they are needed to a certain degree within the target situation. (ex: expressions occasionally used by native speakers).

**- Coverage**

In relation to the previous criterion, some lexical items and structures are widely covered and they take a vaster space in the syllabus. In other words, it is essential to realize that some aspects of language have a larger scope of use; consequently, need recurrent occurrence and focus.

- Usefulness

It is insufficient to tackle classroom related vocabulary. Designers must develop the use and adapt everyday situations to improve the usefulness of the content and accordingly widen the scope of linguistic abilities for language learners. To sum up, these four criteria cover most of what is actually needed by designers to ensure a gradual and efficient teaching experience.

**FACTORS AFFECTING ESP COURSE DESIGN**