**Description & Course Policy of Oral Expression Course**

Refer to Canva 2020/2021

**Teaching Unit:** Fundamental

**Module:** Comprehension and oral expression

**Credits:** 04

**Coefficient:** 02

**Course Objectives:** By the end of the course, students are expected to:

- Understand instances of connected speech

- Recognize different varieties, accents, and registers

- Produce correct and relevant instances of discourse with ease and confidence

**Prerequisite**

Students should master what they have learned in the previous semesters to be able to increase their knowledge

**N.B.:** Students should learn the techniques of listening and speaking before the teacher asks them to do things on their own. Searching for a relevant material is challenging for many teachers, therefore, a bit of flexibility is needed as far as the order of lessons is concerned. Besides, it is not easy to teach exactly the same content or unify lessons due to the nature of this course. At least teachers should try to cover similar points as much as possible.

**Syllabus content** (adjusted):

**Semester 3**

**Speaking**

* Describing people’s traits and physical appearance (polite language, positive & negative adjectives, expressions of description, etc)
* Describing objects according to shape, colour, sound, smell, etc, using paraphrasing technique.
* Presentation skills (academic and business) => this requires a lot of preparation at home and takes time (students are allowed to work in pairs or groups)
* Persuasion skills
* News reporting and weather forecast (language of media) => this requires a lot of preparation at home and takes time
* Interviewing skills (using follow-up questions, how to respond back and show understanding such as ahuh, I see, really, etc)

**Semester 4**

**Speaking**

* Different types of conversation (small talk, banter, chat, etc)
* Film reviews (summarize a film, moral lessons learnt from the film, new language, culture, etc)
* Storytelling techniques (telling an anecdote, picture-cued storytelling, shaggy-dog stories which should be acted out in class) => this requires a lot of preparation at home and takes time
* Reading aloud techniques (you can raise awareness about intonation, the tone, the tonic and the tone unit, sentence stress and weak forms and aspects of connected speech)
* Debating skills (showing respect, turn-taking, etc)

For **Listening** you can use a variety of topics and different oral literature genres such as dialogues, interviews, monologues, conversations, etc. just make sure the content relates to the speaking class content. What is more important is that you show students the necessary listening strategies needed for comprehension. Do not just expose them to aural input or test their comprehension only without showing them what to do to understand and develop their listening skills.

* People
* The five senses
* Business talks
* Lectures and motivational talks
* Job interviews or interviewing a celebrity
* News and weather forecast
* Film reviews, cinema
* Short stories (anecdotes, jokes, folk tales, fairy tales, etc)

As for **other oral aspects of language** such as interjections, vague language, slang and colloquial expressions, cultural aspects, games, expressing opinion, agreeing and disagreeing in discussions, etc, remain the responsibility of each individual teacher because they are difficult to be taught strictly in the same way, and we usually teach them in context when they show up.

Concerning the **teaching materials**, you can use different sources provided that they serve the lesson purpose and are authentic. You can use zappenglish.com audio clips, videos from English file and Insideout coursebooks, other internet sources from Youtube, etc. [www.onestopenglish.com](http://www.onestopenglish.com) is a rich resource in which you have the right to download three things at a time then they will ask you to pay to have access to the rest of content. The trick to have free access is to clear the search history!

As concerns **assessment**, 50% for a written exam, and 50% for a continuous quiz.

**Written exam** in the lab: part 1 listening comprehension test (10 points), part 2 is questions about anything dealt with in class whether slang, idioms, American Vs British, connotation, politeness, cultural aspects, collocations, pronunciation, etc (10 points).

**Quiz (Continuous assessment)**: attendance (5 points), presentations and any homework assignment (10 points because they are many and they are necessary to encourage practice, and without them the session does not proceed), speaking test may include describing a picture or reading a passage aloud (5 points).