



## 1. IDENTIFICATION DETAILS

Title:	DEGREE IN BIOTECHNOLOGY
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Faculty/School:	BIO-SANITARY SCIENCES
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Course subject:	<b>SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ENGLISH</b>
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Type:	UNIVERSITY COMPULSORY SUBJECT
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Credits ECTS:	4
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Year / Semester:	Year 2 – 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester
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Code:	20112
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Subject:	SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ENGLISH
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Language:	English
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Total number of hours undertaken by pupil:	100
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## 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

### 2.1 Synopsis\*

The objective of the subject Scientific and Technical English is to provide students with the knowledge that allow them to use the English language as a biotechnological, research of documentation working tool, as well as to develop their English communication skills so they can be used in their future professions.

In addition, considering that students will have to deal with individuals, written information and audiovisual material in English, this subject will include the following contents: knowledge of the English language to facilitate students' occupational mobility and a more direct contact with other cultures; grammar; syntax; reading; speaking; writing; use of English in professional activities and modern communication systems (Internet, etc.).

### 2.2 Development

The subject Scientific and Technical English is characteristic of the Degree in Biotechnology. It is included in the third semester of the second year, it amounts to 4 ECTS credits, and it requires a total of 100 hours of student work.

### 3. SKILLS TO DEVELOP

#### 3.1. General skills\*

To develop oral and written communication skills in the English language.

To generate public opinion and build bridges with the different social sectors that allow the development and spreading of clear and concise information about the role of biotechnology and culture at the service of individuals, transmitting value based on the search for the truth and common well-being, all in the English language.

To develop teamwork and leadership skills.

To appreciate the value of sciences as a cultural fact.

To develop learning and personal development skills.

#### 3.2. Specific skills\*

To use oral and written communication skills to transmit the knowledge acquired in the English language.

To develop efficient and coordinated teamwork skills.

To fluently and efficiently speak in English to conduct research and transmit messages and information in the English language.

To be updated and know how to interpret current news.

### 4. PREREQUISITES

Level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages is required. It is assumed that students have successfully completed the language test in the Spanish pre-university examination, in which a B1 average level is required.

### 5. WORK TIME DISTRIBUTION

40 CONTACT HOURS	60 REMOTE STUDY HOURS
10 Seminars 2 Presentation of group assignments 4 Tutorials (group and individual) 4 Evaluation	20 Group assignment 20 Study of theory 10 Virtual online work 10 Complementary activities (tutorials)

### 6. OBJECTIVE\*

To develop English communication skills in their different aspects: grammar, sociolinguistics, speech, strategic and socio-cultural.

1. Presentations
2. Materials & Methods
3. Results
4. DDT
5. The Structure and Language of an Abstract
6. Scientific Writing
7. Language

## 7. METHODOLOGY/LEARNING ACTIVITIES

### Synopsis\*

The methodology applied will be active, participative and collaborative, based on a communication approach to English teaching with face-to-face activities: lectures, group dynamics (debates, role playing), class presentations, individual and group tutorials; and independent learning activities: study of theory, work in the virtual classroom, design of class presentations and preparation of class activities (readings, search for information, and preparation of individual assignments).

## 8. EVALUATION SYSTEM

### Synopsis\*

A continuous evaluation system will be applied. Such system appreciates students' learning process through a continuous monitoring of the work done and knowledge acquired. It aims at the verification of skills (in the sense of "proving to be skilled at something") gained by students in this subject. To this end, the procedures and techniques used will be the following, among others: short, long or developing-answer tests, oral tests (individual, group, presentations, etc.), assignments and projects.

## 9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Basic Bibliography

Material especially prepared by the university for the subject of Biotechnology: Coursepack 2º Grado en Biotecnología: Scientific and Technical English

## 10. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Different readings and audiovisual materials will be recommended to students to encourage their immersion in the culture of English-speaking countries.

## LEARNING RESULTS

- To use different types of discourse, and organize them according to coherence and cohesion procedures.
- To adapt the discourse to the communication situation depending on the role of each interlocutor, the particular communication situation and the communication needs.
- To define and perform the necessary adjustments so as communication is as efficient as possible.
- To understand the most relevant cultural aspects of English-speaking countries. The aim is to understand the fundamental cultural keys affecting language.
- To study the different socio-cultural aspects of English-speaking communities.
- To understand the importance of English as a useful transnational communication instrument to access other cultures and original scientific sources.
- To produce oral and written messages in English with enough fluency and propriety to achieve efficient communication.
- To correctly use English grammar and vocabulary in all communication scenarios —academic, professional and leisure.
- To read and understand medium-difficulty texts related to students' future professional field.

## **Development**

### 1. PRESENTATIONS

Students will learn the characteristics of an efficient presentation in English, as well as the best techniques to prepare it, for students will have to prepare one for this subject.

### 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Students will practice the technical vocabulary and needed grammar to be able to give instructions in an experiment and explain the experimental procedure.

### 3. RESULTS

Students will learn different ways of explaining results from experiments. In addition to language, they will use different charts to present results in a visual manner.

### 4. DDT

Students will study DDT, a main organochlorine compound widely used during the 20<sup>th</sup> century as insecticide, but banned after a world campaign stating that it accumulated in food chains and could lead to food contamination.

### 5. STRUCTURE AND LANGUAGE OF AN ABSTRACT

Students will be required to read abstracts constantly in the Degree of Biotechnology. This subject will focus on the specific language and structure needed to understand and write abstracts.

### 6. SCIENTIFIC WRITING

Students will be required to write scientific reports in English while studying the Degree in Biotechnology and in their future jobs. This subject will teach them to identify common mistakes in writing, and the special formats used in the preparation of the different scientific document.

### 7. LANGUAGE

In this subject, students will review the most complex grammar structures in adequate contexts. Students will also practice using biotechnology-related vocabulary in different oral activities.

## **Development**

### Assessment Test

With the aim of advising all UFV students on their English level and detecting the particular needs for a constant progress in learning the language, an assessment test is performed. Results will be given to students so they can schedule a working plan to improve and/or consolidate their English regardless of their Degree.

Subject Orientation towards Specialty, not towards Level.

Given the heterogeneous nature of the groups, and with the aim of improving particular aspects of all the degrees in which the English language is taught as a subject, the academic contents and programmes are oriented towards particular topics of the areas of expertise in the different degrees, and designed to enhance communication and oral presentation —The teaching of English is not level-oriented.

It is assumed that students have successfully completed the language test in the Spanish pre-university examination, in which a B1 average level is required.

The fact of having a good command of the English students does not guarantee students passing the subject. The exam will include the contents in the programs given at the start of the academic period. However, a good command of English will help students reach the objectives, together with their dedication to study and effort.

## **Convalidation and Bilingualism**

The convalidation of English is not possible, given the importance of students' constant progress and the fact that the subject has its own contents related to the different degrees, enhancing communication, presentations and specific projects, and not dealing with the language from a mere linguistic perspective.

### **Methodology**

The methodology will be active, participative, and based on the following:

#### **Face-to-face activities:**

- Lectures (master classes / theoretical): guided by professors but with high student participation.
- Seminars (practical classes): work in small groups to put into practice the content studied during lectures.
- Group class presentations: Individually, in pairs or in group, and directly supported by tutorials, students will prepare and present a topic following the guidelines given by professors with the aim of encouraging and practicing speaking in public.
- Tutorials:
  - Group obligatory sessions
  - Individual: student guidance with the aim of revising and discussing the subjects presented or proposed in class, and solving doubts during the professor's tutorial hours assigned or in previously assigned hours.
    - Evaluation: partial tests, class presentations, tutorials, group dynamics (debates, role play), class participation and final exam.

#### **Remote study activities:**

- Group assignments: design and development of class presentations.
- Theoretical study: study of the syllabus contents, and preparation of exams and tutorials.
- Search for contents and teaching material in the virtual classroom: students will need the coursepack and other complementary documents for their personal study. They will need to participate in the forum organized by the professor, carry out complementary activities, and hold tutorials with the professor.
- Individual assignments: preparation for the participation in debates, readings, information search, etc.

## **Development**

### **Evaluation Criteria:**

A continuous evaluation method will be followed. THE END OF THE YEAR STARTS ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE YEAR. The following will be considered:

- a. Students' ability to put the theoretical contents into practice through class assignments, debates, personal consideration and exams.
- b. The knowledge, abilities, general and linguistic skills developed.
  - c. Participation in activities proposed inside and outside the classroom, preparation of obligatory/volunteer assignments, presentation of personal work, class behaviour, and independent activities.
  - d. Attendance to class and tutorial sessions.

### **Evaluation Instruments and Techniques:**

#### **a. Techniques:**

- Oral presentation and writing.
- Group dynamics, debates, role play, etc.

## b. Instruments:

- Obligatory tutorials
- Oral presentations
- Mid-term tests
- Final exam
- Active participation

## CONTINUOUS EVALUATION

UFV students will follow a continuous evaluation system. This means successfully completing all the thematic blocks into which the subject is divided with, at least, a five (5) over ten in all and each of the mentioned blocks.

Structure to complete the subject with the continuous evaluation system:

- Oral evaluation: 30%

Oral work: individual and/or group presentations, debates, etc.

- Written evaluation: 40%

Mid-term written tests

- Independent work inside and outside the classroom: 30%

- Positive attitude towards the subject
- Preparation of class activities
- Active participation in class activities, which implies regular attendance (not less than 80%)
- Preparation of assignments, projects, portfolios
- Activities in the virtual classroom
- Individual and group obligatory tutorials

## ASSUMPTIONS AFFECTING THE COMPLETION OF THE SUBJECT WITH CONTINUOUS EVALUATION:

1. Students who do not obtain a punctuation of 5 in all and each of the three thematic blocks of the subject will need to write an ordinary exam in February and/or an extraordinary exam in September.

- In the event of failing just one of the three thematic blocks included in the subject, in February, student will only need to write such part.

- In the event of failing two or more thematic blocks, students will need to write all the parts in the exams in February and/or September. The evaluation system will be the one followed in February and/or September.

2. If students fail the February exam, they will need to be examined in September of the whole subject.
3. If students do not meet the deadline for the individual or group assignment, project or portfolio indicated in the Coursepack and by the professor at the start of the academic period, they will need to deliver it obligatory in February and/or September, following the professor's indications.

The deadline for all assignments, projects or portfolios will be the final exam date published by the University for this subject in February and/or September, unless otherwise specified by the professor.

4. In case of plagiarism of any individual or group assignment, project, etc. students will FAIL the subject in its regular call, and will need to write the September exam, being assessed of all the contents regardless of previously having passed one or more blocks.
5. If students' unjustified absence is over 20%, they will need to be examined of all the subject content in February and/or September. In this case, the grades previously obtained will not be considered. The final grade will be the one obtained in February or September.

Absence Notes

- Students not attending classes with a justified reason (severe illness / hospitalization / trial) will be required to bring an absence note.
- Absence notes will only be accepted in class the day after being absent.
- Those absence notes delivered after such day will not be valid, and the absence will not be justified, being part of the 20% of unjustified absence.

## RAISING MARKS

The February exam is ONLY for students who have not successfully completed the continuous evaluation. Those students who have passed the subject through continuous evaluation will not be able to raise their marks in the February exam.

THE END OF THE YEAR STARTS ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE YEAR!

The September exam is ONLY for students who did not pass or write the February exam.

## DISTINCTION

The qualification of Distinction is an award to excellence.

It will be exclusively awarded to those outstanding students, not only regarding their academic results in the subject, but also their attitude and interest towards study and the subject, commitment, teamwork, etc. throughout the academic period. The qualification of Distinction will be solely and exclusively granted by the professor of the subject.

## WORKING STUDENTS AND REPEATING STUDENTS

In the case of working and repeating students not being able to attend classes, they will need to inform their professor of such circumstance at the start of the year, as well as to present an absence note, so they can follow a study plan given by the professor. In any case, students' qualification will be the one obtained in the February and/or September exam.

It is the student's responsibility to contact the professor of the subject to follow the guidelines for the exam regarding procedures, guidelines and dates.

## FEBRUARY AND/OR SEPTEMBER EXAMS

There are two calls: an ordinary one in February and an extraordinary one in September.

In both exams, all the contents studied in class —not only the one included in the Coursepack— will be assessed. Students will need to prove their knowledge of the language and the subject contents.

Structure to successfully complete the subject in February and/or September:

- Oral evaluation: 30%
- Written exam: 40%
- Independent work: 30%

A qualification of 5 in all and each one of the three thematic blocks will be required to successfully complete the subject. In the event of not obtaining 5 in all and each of the three blocks in the February exam, students will need to write the September exam.

It is students' responsibility to contact the professor regarding the guidelines for their final evaluation.

The deadline for any assignment, project or portfolio will be final exam date published by the University for this subject in February and/or September, unless otherwise specified by the professor.

Students will be required to present their ID card, University card or other identification document including a photograph, in order to write their final exam.

Unidentified students will not be allowed to write the exam.

## CLASSROOM RULES

- The use of mobile phones is prohibited.
- Laptop computers will only be allowed in the classroom to take notes or perform any related activity, with the express permission of the professor.
- Access to the classroom will be restricted after the first 10 minutes.
- Food and beverages are not allowed in the classroom.

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