

## Master's Degree in Dentistry and Dental Prosthetics 2021/2022

**Course:** Scientific English

**SSD:** L-LIN/12

**CFU Number:** 2

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### PREREQUISITES

Students should have a working knowledge of English (at least B1 CEFR).

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The Scientific English course aims

- to provide students with a general understanding of medical-scientific terminology;
- to deepen their knowledge of basic notions of English grammar (Level B1) during the analysis of texts covering topics related to dentistry;
- to prepare students for interaction in English with patients, family members and other subjects in the field of work of a dentist;
- to introduce concepts of academic writing and to develop students' ability to read and correctly understand the contents of international scientific publications in English;
- to prepare students for University-level studies in English.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

Upon the completion of the Scientific English course students will be able to:

- Recognize and understand the discursive practices and linguistic markers of English as a lingua franca of medicine;
- apply the language skills necessary to understand and analyze an international scientific text, with particular insight into the field of dentistry and dental prosthetics.

#### **Applying knowledge and understanding**

On successful completion of the Scientific English course students will be able to use the acquired knowledge and communication skills to:

- express themselves more clearly and effectively in English, not only in daily life, but also in situations such as conferences, presentations, meetings, interviews, etc.;
- autonomously study and update aspects of dentistry by reading international scientific publications as well as successfully follow university lectures in English;
- use the key terms, phraseological units and concepts of medical-scientific discourse, with particular regard to their professional field;
- apply the main English grammar rules (Level B1-B2);
- achieve the fluency of the spoken language for effective dentist-patient interaction.

### **Communication skills**

On successful completion of the Scientific English course students:

- must know how to use the specialized terminology and phraseology adequately both in active (production) and passive (reception) modes;
- must be able to start and have a conversation on the topics of the syllabus;
- must be able to produce short written texts following the samples from the syllabus.
- Making judgements
- On successful completion of the Scientific English course students will be able to:
- make informed judgements about the topics of the course

### **Making Judgements**

At the end of the course, the student:

- will have to be able to carry out general assessments relating to the topics covered.

### **Learning skills**

At the end of the course, the student should have acquired independent method for studying and updating through different kind of literature or through scientific literature.

## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

The syllabus is structured around the topics of the thematic module listed below. Each unit analyzes different types of written and oral texts taken, adapted and simplified from original documents. Each unit includes sections dedicated to grammar practice and vocabulary building, as well as insights into linguistic and discursive peculiarities of Medical-Scientific English. The lessons offer specific exercises aimed at developing the students' four language skills (listening, reading, writing, speaking) in a systematic and integrated way.

### **THEMATIC MODULE:**

- Healthcare professionals. Major medical specialties. Dental professionals;
- The mouth and the tooth. Dental anatomy. Enamel;
- History of dentistry;
- Prosthetics. Types and classifications;
- Dental impression materials;
- Dentistry and Aesthetics;
- Pain;
- Advertising of professional dental products;
- Modelling materials;
- Written communication with suppliers and patients;
- Business emails and calls;
- Job interview. Dentistry student's profile. CV writing.

### **GRAMMAR MODULE:**

- The language of definitions;
- Relative pronouns;
- The passive voice in scientific publications: writing workshop;

- The English noun: countable and uncountable forms;
- Making comparisons: the English adjective;
- Talking about the past: Past Simple vs. Present Perfect;
- Modal verbs and imperative mood;
- Quantifiers.

#### **DISCOURSE MODULE:**

- Languages for Specific Purposes;
- Medical-Scientific English and its features;
- Specialized dictionaries;
- Specialized terminology vs. lay expressions;
- Note-taking methods;
- Nominalization in Scientific English;
- Professional discourse types: writing workshop;
- English as a modern lingua franca of medical communication;
- Understanding a scientific publication;
- Introduction to writing a scientific paper;
- Plagiarism and how to avoid it.

This syllabus is subject to change based on the needs of the class.

#### **COURSE STRUCTURE**

The “Scientific English” course is structured in 20 hours of frontal teaching, divided into 7 2/3-hour lessons according to the academic calendar.

#### **COURSE GRADE DETERMINATION**

Course grade determination is based on a written assignment (50%) and an oral test (50%). The “Scientific English” course is graded pass/fail at the end of the oral test.

##### **The written assignment (50%)**

The written assignment shall discuss one of the course topics chosen in agreement with the course professor.

##### **The oral test (50%)**

The oral test may be taken only after the students have successfully passed their written test, i.e. submitted their written assignments.

The oral test consists of a conversation on one of the topics of the syllabus. During the oral test students have to prove that they can talk about themes and subjects that will be indicated during the course in a linguistically correct manner. Finally, active participation during lectures, as well as, making judgments, communication skills and learning skills as in the Dublin descriptors will be assessed.

#### **READING MATERIALS**

- G. Lauzi and N. Buchan Tomarchio, Smile! The English you need as a Dental Professional, Franco Lucisano Editore, 2014. (The book is available also as e-book)



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- V. Evans, J. Dooley, J. Caldwell, Career Paths: Dentistry (Student's Books 2 & 3), Express Publishing, 2016.
- C. Dofka, Dental Terminology, Delmar / Cengage Learning, New York, 2013.
- Other course materials and PowerPoint presentations will be available online