

Academic Skills and language in Social Sciences

Thematic course (C1+)

Basic information

1. Organisation unit

Jagiellońskie Centrum Językowe

2. Education level

Full time Second-cycle programme or Five-year Master's

3. Course profile

General academic

4. Course type

obligatory

5. Language of instruction

English

6. Education period

Academic year 2023/2024

7. Course coordinator

Jolanta Śniechowska

8. Course teacher

Jolanta Śniechowska

9. Examination

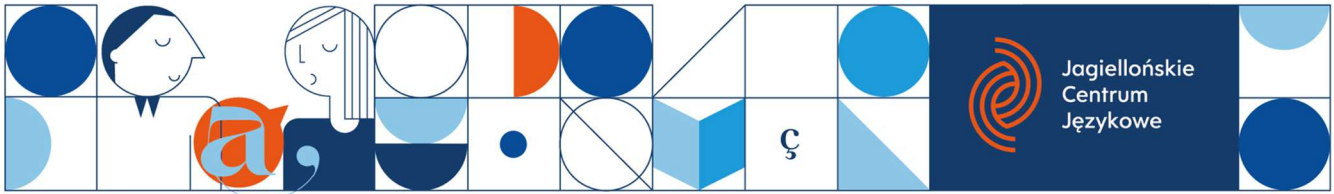
Pre-examination with grade (zaliczenie) after each semester.

Written and spoken examination after 60 hours (two semesters)

10. Number of contact hours

60 hours, 30 hours per semester

11. ECTS points



Course objectives

1. To refine the ability to understand and analyse spoken and written academic texts
2. To refine expression and presentation skills (in speaking and writing)
3. To develop course-related vocabulary
4. To refine the ability to interact in speaking and writing
5. To refine linguistic mediation skills in spoken and written communication
6. To refine the ability to continue linguistic self-development
7. To develop extra-linguistic competences that enable the student to participate in academic and professional environments

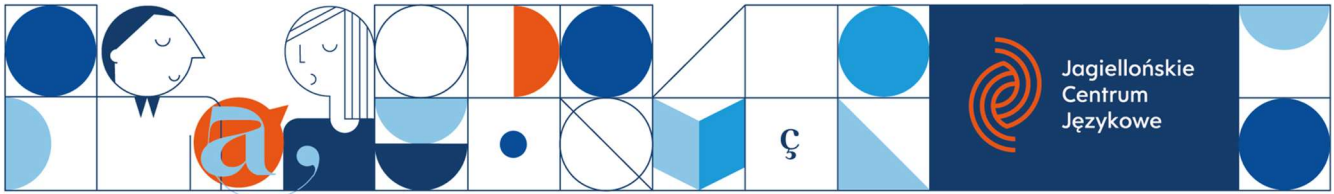
Learning outcomes

1. Knowledge

1. Student knows and understands academic and specialized vocabulary in the range that enables fluent use of the language in speech and writing
2. Student knows and understands different academic and specialized texts, in speech and writing
3. Student knows and understands the necessity of life-long learning and methods of linguistic self-development leading towards professional success
4. Student knows and understands the elements of academic language typical for his / her specialisation

2. Skills

1. Student can understand complex lectures and other utterances typical for academic and professional environments
2. Student can understand complex scientific and popular-science articles, as well as other written course-related texts
3. Student can present opinions on course-related topics, in spoken and written form, and support them with arguments
4. Student can summarise long and complex academic texts and lectures
5. Student can describe and interpret visual data in a graphic form
6. Student can write an academic or professional text
7. Student can present course-related topics in spoken utterances of various kinds, e.g. public speeches or formal and informal conversations, in language appropriate for the interlocutor



8. Student can engage in spoken and written interaction in typical professional contexts and in academic environments
9. Student can use linguistic mediation in spoken and written communication
10. Student can develop his / her linguistic competences
11. Student can prepare for the recruitment process

3. Social competences

1. Student is ready to successfully cooperate in a group, while accepting a variety of attitudes and opinions, and builds relations that promote respect for cultural diversity
2. Student is ready to participate in the academic, professional and social life, through sharing and popularising knowledge
3. Student is ready to continue his / her linguistic self-development
4. Student is ready to interpret and evaluate information and arguments, draw conclusions, identify positions, as well as present his / her own viewpoint in a coherent and comprehensible manner
5. Student is ready to participate in the recruitment process

ECTS credits

1. Contact hours (academic hour = 45 minutes)

30 hours per semester, 60 hours per course

2. Student's total individual workload

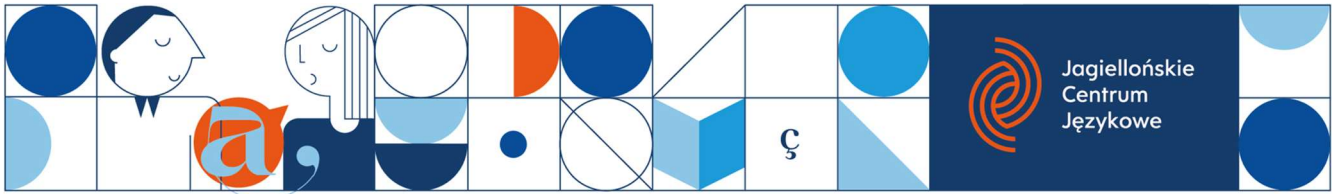
90 hours per course

Course description

It is only when you actively engage with the subject of your studies that you actually learn, remember and make progress. Thus, students' involvement in both creating the content of the course and class activities will be prioritized. Authentic, up-to date and inspiring topics, complemented by students' choices, are meant to boost interest and enhance learning experience. Emphasis on academic skills will hopefully facilitate functioning in academic context and subsequently in the professional environment.

Course Content

Topics and vocabulary related to the following topic areas:



1. 4 C's of the 21st century skills (critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, communication)
2. Learning how to learn (strategies for storing and retrieving information)
3. Giving and receiving peer feedback
4. Listening actively – what does it comprise?
5. Effective communication in general and academic settings (soft language, building up an argument, conceding a point, discourse makers etc.)
6. Features of academic writing (paragraph structure, cohesion, unity, nominalisation, formality, objectivity, hedging)
7. Analysis of selected course-related lectures and presentations
8. Analysis of selected course-related academic papers and popular-science articles chosen by both teacher and students e.g.
 - More experience = bigger brain?
 - Self-fulfilling prophecy
 - Cognitive advantages of bilingualism
 - Psychological response to climate change
 - Influence of space and architectural design on various spheres of our lives
 - Psychology of meditation and health
 - Aging society creates more demand for geropsychologists
 - Towards a pro-social conception of contemporary tattooing
 - AI – a threat or a blessing?
9. Creating academic and professional texts, e.g. professional e-mail, abstract, description of visual data.
10. Delivering an academic or professional, course-related presentation
11. Preparing for the recruitment process (for employment, internship or grant)
12. (Optionally) selected grammar issues related to the course content

Additional information

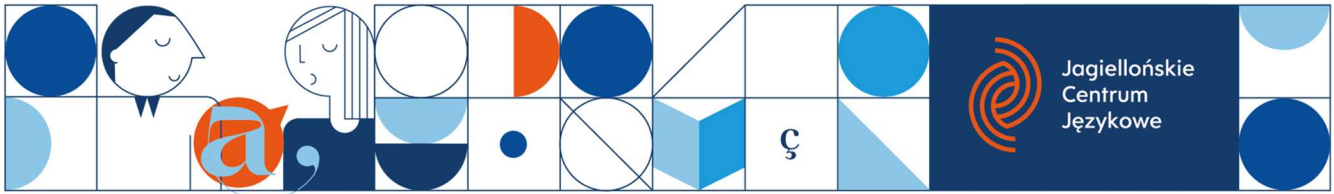
1. Teaching methods

The situational method, brainstorming, group discussion, solving problems, e-learning, language conversations, group projects.

2. Forms of obtaining ECTS

1st and 2nd semester: preparation for and active participation in class, written tests comprising the material covered during the semester, delivering a presentation.

Final written and spoken examination after 2 semesters (60 hours) of the course (detailed information will be provided in due course)



3. Conditions of obtaining ECTS

Completing all tests as well as written and spoken assignments with a score of at least 60% of the maximum number of points per semester.

Regular attendance. Without the appropriate justification, the student may miss no more than two 90-minute classes per semester if the course covers 30 hours per semester.

Passing the final written examination with a score of at least 60% of the maximum number of points. Passing the spoken examination.

4. Entry requirements

It is assumed that the Participants entering this course already know the lexis and grammar issues at C1 level, according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, as well as possess the appropriate skills to communicate successfully in speech and writing in everyday situations and the academic context at C1 level.

Resources

1. Obligatory literature:

Authentic materials in English, adapted for course purposes

2. Additional materials:

Academic publications

BBC radio podcasts and The Guardian science podcasts

TED talks and You Tube

Academic Vocabulary in Use, McCarthy and O'Dell