



UNIVERSITÀ
CATTOLICA
del Sacro Cuore

Advanced English for international relations

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Course aims and intended learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding: the Advanced English language course allows students to acquire the necessary language skills needed to analyze and discuss international political topics.

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Confidently deal with different topics related to political science.
- Satisfactorily produce a college level essay on political topics.
- Adequately follow and understand a range of spoken materials such as presentations and discussions.
- Communicate effectively in face-to-face situations.
- Applying knowledge and understanding: at the end of the course, students will be able to:
- Deal confidently with different types of political topics and issues;
- Write a proper college level essay.
- Follow and understand a range of spoken materials such as discussions, interviews and conversations.
- Communicate effectively in face-to-face situations.

Mission and course content summary: to provide a high level practice of language skills within international political contexts while at the same time provide proof of the level of English required to work in an international organization context or the ability to follow a course of study at university level. The mission of this course is to explore some fundamental areas in English in political environments offering students the opportunity of develop and practice the skills they need in their future professional lives.

Course content

Activities, both written and spoke, are aimed at developing skills which are required to confront with ease the various topics analyzed in class. Particular attention is given to speaking and writing skills.

Reading list

All materials will be discussed and presented during the first lesson.

For non-attending students: students must be able to demonstrate their learned abilities the same as attending students. In addition, non-attending students must be prepared on the following two books:

- G. LAKOFF, Moral Politics – How Liberals and Conservatives Think.
- E. LONERGAN, Money, Acumen.

Teaching method

Face to face communications, language exercises, interactive class activities (role plays, political game situation and debate, forums, etc.) During class time, students also read updated materials and generate class discussions on international political topics. They spend much of their time on activities, simulations and role-plays as well as class presentations to help them identify effective language choices and enhance their ability to use English effectively.



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Assessment method and criteria

There is continuous assessment throughout the semester. Student assessment is based on two main components: 1. Class participation with 75% attendance and active participation; 2. Final written exam: individual grade, 100% of the final grade based on the tasks and situations explored during the semester. The final exam is a proper college written essay. Non-attending students will be required to write an extra essay based on the above books mentioned, all in the same day.

Notes and prerequisites

Students are required to have a minimum B2 level or native speakers of English.