

LETTORATO MAGISTRALE I 2023-2024

PROGRAMME FOR EAAS/ SLLT LETTORATO MAGISTRALE 1

This course aims to extend students' speaking and writing abilities. All students are expected to participate actively. The course will cover a number of writing skills including, paraphrasing, summary writing and formal/academic essay writing. Public speaking skills involving presentation and debate are also part of the course. Students are expected to complete an assignment in both semesters. Six and twelve credit students take a written and a possible oral examination. Students are expected to reach a minimum level of C1 by the end of the year. Students enrolling in academic year 23-24 take the lettorato exam in June 2024. Every two-hour lesson requires at least an hour of preparation as individual study.

Homework assignments during the semester must be submitted within specific deadlines set by the course lecturer. A maximum of ONE homework task per student can be corrected during office hours. Office hours must be booked in advance via email and are suspended before and after exams.

As both summary writing and academic essay writing are taught in progressive stages coursework reflects this and students are strongly advised to follow the lessons as course content is closely aligned to exam content. Further information regarding lesson material will be given by lettori at the start of each semester.

Semester 1 module : Reading, Writing and Public Speaking Skills

Course objectives

Students will be able to:

1. Identify details supporting a point of view in academic texts.
2. Identify examples that support a particular interpretation or point of view.
3. Critically evaluate the quality of sources.
4. Summarise the content of a text
5. Take effective notes while reading and exploit these for both oral presentations and written summaries.

Semester 1 assignment: Summary Writing & Paraphrasing

Paraphrasing and summarising skills will be studied as a necessary prelude to academic writing. Additionally, oral presentations will be done in small groups involving research, presentation and debate on a chosen topic.

Semester 2 Module: Academic Writing

The course will guide students towards writing a research based argumentative extended essay with adequately cited secondary sources.

Course objectives

Students will be able to:

1. Produce a strong thesis statement.
2. Use credible sources to try to demonstrate their point of view.

3. Produce a well-cited argumentative piece of writing.

Semester 2 assignment: Writing an argumentative essay

Selected bibliography for study purposes

Vince, M, Advanced Language Practice with Key. Macmillan Education, 4th edition , 2014

Foley & Hall, My Grammar Lab Advanced, Pearson, 2012

Swan, M *Practical English Usage*. OUP, 3rd edition, 2005.

Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary OUP, 10th edition,2020, or similar

Thorne, S, Mastering Advanced English Language, Palgrave Macmillan

Exam Format

Written Exam

The final exam will consist of a 3 hour written test. The format may change from one exam session to another, and will be held in person unless there is a change in the current situation. Students will be advised well in advance if this is the case, The 3 hour written exam is in two parts: Part 1 (90 minutes) entails paraphrasing 5 sentences from a text and then summarising the text in a maximum number of words. Part 2 (90 minutes) is a 350-450 word argumentative essay based on the topic of the reading plus additional material, a selection of which must be successfully integrated into the essay as you build your argument. Paraphrasing, summary writing and argumentative essay writing require specific skills which need to be practised. This exam is NOT a general English exam and students who are unable to attend should practice the various types of writing taught during the course to avoid disappointment in the exam. 12 cfu students do both parts, 6 cfu students may choose to take EITHER part 1 or part 2. A basic explanation and some practice material can be found at the top of my CLA page. For more information contact us: surnames A-L TOLL / M-Z HILLAN

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E-learning / exam booking and results: CLA pages

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