

INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE CENTRE
ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/2023

REGULATION
For the 1st, 2nd year

Degree Course in
Corporate Communication and Public Relations (CC&PR)

PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH III, IV
LANGUAGE AND CULTURE OF THE SECOND FOREIGN LANGUAGE

The International Language Centre offers language teaching as an integral part of the professional skills required on the labour market. In defining the different levels of linguistic knowledge and skills, it adheres to the Common European Framework of Reference.

TEACHING OBJECTIVES, CONTENT AND METHODOLOGY

The teaching of *Professional English* aims at the development and consolidation of linguistic skills at *upper-intermediate* (B2+) and *advanced* (C1) level on contents and functional elements concerning the world of work and professional relationships, taking into account the micro linguistic field of the course.

The approach to the themes and situations is communicative, therefore, listening comprehension and oral production prevail whilst integrating these skills with reading comprehension and written production. Focus is placed on morphological and syntactic mechanisms to lead the student to consistent and linguistic accuracy.

The teaching of the second foreign language aims at developing language and cultural skills bringing the student, depending on the language, to the completion of CEFR levels A1 (Russian and Chinese) or A2 (Spanish, French and German) for passive skills.

The approach to the issues and situations is communicative and involves the development of the written comprehension on issues in everyday life, lexical consolidation and expansion, strengthening and broadening of basic morphosyntax with particular attention to precise and consistent linguistic practice. Elements of the culture of the country are also part of the programme. The work, coordinated between the individual groups, takes place in the language studied, and is based on interactivity including practical exercises, group and individual work with the use of all audio, video and computer tools.

The student will be able to achieve this goal through regular attendance of the course and/or with an adequate amount of individual study hours.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Professional English: The courses are structured over two years. Access to the course is subject to a language level assessment. To be exempt from Professional English III, students should present the following certifications:

- * *BEC* Higher grade C
- * *TOEFL iBT* score from 95 to 109.
- * *IELTS*: 7,0;
- * *Certificate in Advanced English (CAE)*: score 180 or higher

To be exempt from Professional English IV, students should present the following certifications:

- * *BEC* Higher: grade B:
- * *TOEFL iBT*: score from 110 to 120.
- * *IELTS*: 7,5;
- * *Certificate in Advanced English (CAE)*: score 193 or higher

The aforementioned certifications or adequate documentation that they have followed a curriculum in English and acquired the necessary school leaving diploma at the required level must be shown in original at the International Language Centre.

The annual course (40 academic hours) of Professional English III is focused on the e-learning platform and will be integrated with online weekly lessons with the teacher.

The annual course results in a total of 6 CFU.

The weekly lessons are held entirely in English and include a specific structure, which is projected by the teacher by means of a slide at the beginning of the connection. Each meeting is calibrated to the specific level required by the course and modelled on a blended online teaching method, in order that students can have access to the material at any time during the lesson, even once divided into individual groups (breakout rooms). The strong point of this method is precisely that of giving each student the opportunity to work together, in small groups, to complete the assigned task (case studies).

The presence of the teacher is essential, it is possible to enter into the individual groups, encouraging the exchange between the participants and ensuring constant interaction in English. In case of doubts, uncertainties or other needs, students can also contact the teacher at any time.

The proposed exercises are targeted and prepared ad hoc to work on the lexicon presented on the platform, and guarantee students a further understanding of themes they previously encountered in hard learning method: **for these reasons, attendance is strongly recommended.**

The annual course of Professional English IV consisting of 120 academic hours will be carried out online as follows: each semester 40 academic hours of online lessons with the teacher and 20 hours of compulsory individual study with the use of DVD and CD to complete the didactic requirement. The annual courses result in a total of 6 CFU.

Language and culture of the second foreign language

In **the II year of the course**, the student is required to study a second language chosen among: **French** (level A2) **German** (level A2), **Spanish** (level A2), **Chinese** and **Russian** (level A1). Activation of these courses is subject to reaching a minimum number of students.

The annual courses, carried out online with the teacher, consist of 80 academic hours (40 in each semester) resulting in a total of 6 CFU).

Non-beginners can sit a **language level test of the knowledge level A2**. The test consists of 45 items from a choice of four possibilities. Subject of the test are also questions about the culture of the language. This can act as an examination and performance evaluation, given that a positive grade can exempt the student from attending the courses and confers 6 CFU.

Those students who hold one of the following international certifications, dating back no more than 3 years, recognized by the Faculty Councils, are exempt from the courses:

- French: *DELFL starting level A2 (version "tous publics") of the Centre Culturel Français*
Diplôme du Baccalauréat Général del Ministère de l'Education Nationale
- Spanish: *Diploma de Español Nivel A2 (starting level) of the Instituto Cervantes*
- German: *Start Deutsch 2 / GD 2 (starting level) of the Goethe-Institut, WTB / ÖSD; Telc A2; Deutsches Sprachdiplom (DSD) Stufe I.*
Diplomi di scuole aderenti al progetto Deutsch-Profil-Schulen (DPS)

Any certification for Chinese and Russian will be evaluated by the lecturers of those languages. Students with a baccalaureate (equivalent to the Italian high school diplomas) obtained at a school in a country where that language is officially spoken and adopts this language in their curriculum are also exempt from the exams.

EVALUATION AND CERTIFICATION OF CFU

In order to respect the rule of didactic progression, students may sit the Professional English exam at only one level in any given examination session.

Students will be evaluated during the examination sessions:

Exam

Professional English III

The exam requires that the student be adequately skilled in comprehensive, selective and detailed understanding of written and oral texts at B2 + level, focuses on the programme of the entire academic year and includes the following:

- Written test:
 - o *Reading comprehension*: 1 text
 - o *Cloze text*: 1 text
 - o *Language review*: detailed comprehension of sentences with specific questions (multiple choice with 4 options) on morph-syntactic, lexical and communicative elements.
 - o *Writing*: a formal / informal letter or e-mail or short report.

No penalties for incorrect answers on the written exam.

If the students pass the written test, they will be called to sit an oral exam in the same exam session:

- Oral exam: questions on the topics addressed during the course.

The result of the oral exam, is combined with the written score to reach an average final result.

By actively participating in the weekly blended lessons, the student will have the opportunity to receive oral evaluations. Each oral evaluation (one per semester) is expressed in 30ths and is composed of the sum of the Speaking mark (maximum 15 points for continuous assessment of the work on case studies in the breakout rooms) and the Presentation mark in the final lessons of the semester (maximum 15 points points). The Presentation must be on one of the topics covered and meet the criteria indicated by the teacher and developed in the LUCKY DIP. The average of the two oral assessments will contribute to the final average with the written exam if the latter is positive.

Professional English IV

The exam requires that the student be adequately skilled in the comprehensive, selective and detailed understanding of written texts and oral reproduction of appropriate terminology corresponding to level C1. The exam focuses on the programme of the entire year and includes the following elements:

- Written test:
 - Reading comprehension*: 1 Academic Text
 - Vocabulary and structure*: Academic vocabulary and Use of English
 - Writing*: Advanced Level lexical text.

No penalties apply for incorrect answers.

Once the students pass the written test, they will be called to sit the oral exam in the same exam session:

- Oral: interview on the topics addressed during the course comments on course material.

The result of the oral exam, is combined with the written result to reach an average final score out of thirty.

Students who follow the course will be able to obtain an oral evaluation during the first semester and second semester. The average of the two marks will be added to the written mark if the latter is positive and the final mark in thirtieths will be the average of the two.

Language and culture of the second foreign language

The exam requires that the student be adequately skilled in comprehensive, selective and detailed understanding of written texts and the use of appropriate terminology at level A2 for Spanish, French and German and at level A1 for Russian and Chinese.

The exam includes 30 items on language review (multiple choice) and 15 items on culture of the country of the language studied.

No penalties for incorrect answers.

The procedure for registering the results of the exam is the same as for the standard faculty exams.

The programmes are valid for all exam sessions of the academic year 2022-2023.

The didactic norms illustrated in this Regulation have been drawn up in agreement with the Directorate of the Institute of Higher Education SSML Carlo Bo.

Director of Studies
Prof. Paolo Proietti



Approved by the Faculty on September 22nd, 2022