



Universidad
de Navarra

Academic Skills in English 1 (F. Medicina)

Guía docente 2025-26

PRESENTACIÓN

This course trains students to use English as an essential tool for studying medicine, participating in international exchange programmes, understanding texts and lectures on scientific and general topics, and expressing themselves correctly both orally and in writing in academic and professional settings.

Days: Mondays and Wednesdays 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. (from 1 September to 28 November. Written exam on 27 November)

Location: Classroom 22, Sciences Building

Requirements: B2 level of English

Course: 1st year onwards

Semester: 1st Semester

ECTS: 3

Type of subject: Elective

Language of instruction: English

Degree: Bachelor's Degree in Medicine

Module VI: Elective

Subject 1: Elective

Department: Modern Languages Institute

Professor in charge: Paul Bentham (pbentham@unav.es)

RESULTADOS DE APRENDIZAJE (Competencias)

COMPETENCIES OF THE MEDICAL DEGREE THAT MUST BE ACQUIRED IN THIS SUBJECT

BASIC COMPETENCIES:

CB1 - Students must demonstrate that they possess and understand knowledge in an area of study that builds on the basis of general secondary education and is usually found at a level that, while supported by advanced textbooks, also includes some aspects that involve knowledge from the forefront of their field of study.

CB5 - Students have developed the learning skills necessary to undertake further studies with a high degree of autonomy.

GENERAL COMPETENCIES



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CG19 - Propose and suggest appropriate preventive measures for each clinical situation.

CG03 - Know how to apply the principle of social justice to professional practice and understand the ethical implications of health in a changing global context.

CG04 - Develop professional practice with respect for patient autonomy, beliefs and culture.

CG09 - Understand and recognise the effects, mechanisms and manifestations of disease on the structure and function of the human body.

CG10 - Understand and recognise the causative agents and risk factors that determine health status and disease development.

CG12 - Understand the fundamentals of action, indications and efficacy of therapeutic interventions, based on available scientific evidence.

CG15 - Be able to make an initial diagnostic assessment and establish a reasoned diagnostic strategy.

CG17 Establish the diagnosis, prognosis and treatment, applying principles based on the best possible information and in conditions of clinical safety.

CG18 - Indicate the most appropriate treatment for the most prevalent acute and chronic processes, as well as for terminally ill patients.

CG38 - Be able to function in international scientific and clinical settings to participate in translational research in the field of biomedicine.

SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES

CE36 - Know how to approach professional practice while respecting the patient's autonomy, beliefs and culture.

CE46 Be familiar with healthcare planning and administration at the global, European, Spanish and regional levels.

SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES OF THE SUBJECT OPTIONALITY

CEO5 - Be familiar with the possibilities for social cooperation through the practice of medicine.

CEO10 - Be familiar with certain medical aspects with international repercussions.

PROGRAMA

A) Academic and professional English

Reading for accuracy and general ideas.

Identifying main and secondary ideas in a text.

Distinguish between different genres of academic and scientific English.



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Recognise the structure of a text and know how to find information quickly.

Distinguish between facts and opinions in a text.

Written expression: summarise, write correspondence.

Text comprehension: analyse and synthesise information, check data.

Write a short report based on real data.

Use content from different sources to write a 1,000-word essay.

B) Communicative language skills

Oral expression: communicate in English in formal and informal contexts; give public presentations with computer support and answer questions.

Oral comprehension: understand conversations and lectures, follow instructions.

C) Language knowledge

Verbs: tenses (past, future, present), main verbs, auxiliary verbs and their functions (obligation, prohibition, possibility), compound verbs.

Syntactic knowledge: formulating questions, comparisons, complex sentences.

Lexical knowledge: use of adjectives.

ACTIVIDADES FORMATIVAS

Face-to-face classes: 30 hours

Knowledge imparted in class: Books and audiovisual resources will be used to teach the language, its linguistic basis and its application to the professional world, in written and/or oral form in class.

Student activity in class: Students will carry out work in class individually or in groups to consolidate the linguistic knowledge and skills mentioned above.

Students will learn to communicate correctly in English in academic and professional situations, using the appropriate vocabulary, correct expressions of courtesy, etc. They will participate in role-playing games to reinforce these skills in communicative situations.

Students will also acquire the general academic and linguistic skills necessary to understand lectures in English and take notes, write professional and academic texts using the appropriate formal style.

Students will complete:

Compilation of work for a portfolio:



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- a. Letter of motivation and CV
- b. 500-word essay
- c. 1,000-word academic essay

Exercises to consolidate the language work done in class (compulsory task):
grammar, vocabulary, writing exercises, etc., which will be corrected in class.

Personal study (mandatory assignment).

A mock meeting and presentation (in groups): 1 hour

Oral exam: 10 minutes

Written exam: 1 hour and 30 minutes

Objectives:

Knowledge:

Fundamental knowledge of the English language: grammar, vocabulary, etc.,
especially academic and scientific language.

Skills and attitudes:

Communicate effectively and clearly, both orally and in writing, with
patients, family members, the media and other professionals in English

Understand clinical and biomedical information sources in order to obtain, organise,
interpret and communicate scientific and health information.

EVALUACIÓN

REGULAR CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

(i) Coursework - Portfolio (45%):

Written assignment 1: 10% - Discursive essay (280-320 words). (date to be confirmed).

Oral expression 1: 5% - Group oral expression assignment 1. (date to be confirmed).

Written assignment 2: 5% - CV + cover letter (date to be confirmed).

Oral expression 2: 10% - Individual presentations. (date to be confirmed).

Written task 3: 15% - Integrated academic essay. (date to be confirmed).



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(ii) Oral interview (10%): Date to be confirmed.

(iii) Final exam (45%): 27 November 2025.

1) Language: Vocabulary (10 multiple-choice questions) and Grammar (10 transformation sentences)

2) Reading comprehension (13 multiple-choice questions)

3) Listening comprehension (10 multiple-matching questions)

4) Integrated written expression (summary of the information provided in a short written text and an audio lecture on the same topic, 12 points possible).

SPECIAL EXAM

Students who pass the continuous assessment and oral presentation but fail the written exam must take a special exam (2nd exam), which will include reading, short and long questions, text comprehension and listening comprehension exercises, multiple-choice questions and fill-in-the-blank questions.

Students who do not complete the activities for continuous assessment, do not submit their written work on the dates previously determined by the teacher and/or fail these activities will have to redo said work and submit it on the same day as the extraordinary exam for assessment, except for the oral presentation. In this case, the percentages of the final grade that apply to each part will be:

Written work: 30%

Final exam: 70%

IMPORTANT! Students with special educational needs must contact the Faculty's Academic Coordination Office in advance to obtain authorisation for any necessary adjustments (e.g. extra time for exams). This authorisation must be sent by the student to the lecturer. It is recommended that this be done at the beginning of the semester.

ATTENTION: Please note that any attempt at fraud, copying, plagiarism or other irregular behaviour constitutes a serious offence as set out in Title IV 'Academic Disciplinary Rules for Students' within the University of Navarra's Code of Conduct. This includes the use of generative AI software, such as Chat GPT.

HORARIOS DE ATENCIÓN

In the first instance please email me at pbentham@unav.es to arrange an appointment.

BIBLIOGRAFÍA



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The materials will be made available on a weekly basis in the Contents folder at the beginning of the course.