

Syllabus

Course Description

Course Title	English for Social Work
Course Code	53148
Course Title Additional	
Scientific-Disciplinary Sector	ANGL-01/C
Language	English
Degree Course	Master in Social Work and Social Policy
Other Degree Courses (Loaned)	
Lecturers	Dr. phil. PD Barbara Hofer, Barbara.Hofer1@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/36062
Teaching Assistant	
Semester	First semester
Course Year/s	1
CP	1
Teaching Hours	20
Lab Hours	0
Individual Study Hours	5
Planned Office Hours	10
Contents Summary	Developing professional English writing skills for social work, with a focus on academic and professional texts. Practical exercises on writing academic essays, research projects and reports in social contexts. Analysis of sources, text organisation, argumentation techniques, specialist vocabulary and use of AI tools.
Course Topics	• how to plan effectively a written assignment • the general structure of an argumentative text • the writing process: academic style (including hedging, passive

	voice, and relative clauses) and vocabulary (including prepositions and phrasal verbs) the reviewing process: citations and plagiarism; reporting verbs; reference lists and in-text citations
Keywords	Academic language skills; Academic and professional communication; Argumentative text structure; Academic style; AI tools in academic writing
Recommended Prerequisites	
Propaedeutic Courses	
Teaching Format	The lesson takes place remotely.
Mandatory Attendance	In accordance with the regulation
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes	- Develop writing skills for an academic and professional audience. - Structure an argumentative text on topics related to social work. - Expand specialised English vocabulary. - Structure academic and professional texts effectively in English - Apply stylistic and genre conventions of academic and professional writing - Use specialized vocabulary relevant to the field of social work - Reflect critically on the ethical use of literature and AI tools in writing
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes (additional info.)	Knowledge and understanding - know how to structure an argumentative essay/report - have an understanding of academic tone and vocabulary appropriate to academic writing in English - know how to find and evaluate information in order to plan for a written assignment - understand the norms associated with citation Applying knowledge and understanding - be able to write an effective essay/report that follows the conventions associated with the text genre - use appropriate academic conventions when writing, including the use of specific genre features, academic stance and voice, formal tone, and acknowledgement of academic sources through APA referencing conventions - integrate AI tools into academic writing ethically and effectively

	Making judgements • identify arguments and counterarguments in academic texts • select appropriate vocabulary and grammar structures for written texts • use AI software consciously and recognise its potential and limitations for academic writing Communication skills • be able to consider audience when producing written academic texts in English • be able to communicate own ideas and opinions • communicate ideas and arguments clearly and fluently in written form Learning skills • be aware of the kinds of errors students typically make in academic writing and be ready to correct them • know how to refer to other academic texts • know how to review written assessment in order to identify areas for improvement
Assessment	Summative assessment: final written examination (short argumentative essay/report).
Evaluation Criteria	Summative assessment: i) organisation and cohesion; ii) accuracy of grammar and lexis; iii) appropriacy of register and format; iv) content
Required Readings	Bailey, S. (2017). Academic Writing: A Handbook for International Students. Routledge. Ross, B. (2021). Writing skills for social work students. Bloomsbury Publishing.
Supplementary Readings	Other materials will be provided during the course.
Further Information	
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Quality education