Syllabus

Course Description

Course Title	Scientific Writing and Communication
Course Code	76246
Course Title Additional	
Scientific-Disciplinary Sector	PHIL-02/A
Language	English
Degree Course	Bachelor in Computer Science
Other Degree Courses (Loaned)	
Lecturers	Dr. Jemma F. Prior, Jemma.Prior@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/engineering/academic-staff/person/564
Teaching Assistant	
Semester	Second semester
Course Year/s	2025/2025
CP	3
Teaching Hours	30
Lab Hours	0
Individual Study Hours	75
Planned Office Hours	9
Contents Summary	The type of course is "affine integrative" and the scientific area is "formazione affine". Computer scientists learn to master a unique language that allow them to program machines. Such effective communication is a core skill in any domain, but it assumes particular importance for computer scientists, who need to communicate complex problems and concepts. Many different situations (thesis, job interview, fundraising, public presentation, scientific conference, technical pitch etc.) require the presenter to be able to convey effectively and efficiently the technical/scientific content, whatever the

	audience, the content and its complexity. This specifically designed course aims to develop students' proficiency in using academic and scientific English at the C1 level and above. It covers some of the main areas of scientific and academic communication that students encounter to assist them in the linguistic aspects of their research and it aims to help students with the drafting and writing of their final thesis.
Course Topics	- Writing skills: improvement of academic and scientific written skills through the practice and production of subject-specific texts; - Spoken skills: improvement of spoken interaction and production through the practice and production of academically and professionally acceptable presentations and other domain-specific speaking activities; - Development of receptive skills through the exposure to and analysis of various types of written and spoken discourse typical of undergraduate studies in Computer ScienceI
Keywords	scientific writing, academic English, presentations, lexicogrammar
Recommended Prerequisites	It is recommended to have atteneded the course English for Computer Scientists
Propaedeutic Courses	
Teaching Format	Teaching format is based on the seminar format which envisages teacher and student co-operation and participation in the classroom through individual, pair and group work. Any student who has specific learning needs that they feel may have an impact on their ability to benefit fully from this course will be offered individual support on request.
Mandatory Attendance	Attendance is not compulsory but strongly recommended. Non-attending students have to contact the lecturer at the start of the course to agree on the modalities of the independent study.
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes	D1.20 - Understand the basic principles of communication with customers, software development communities, or within even complex business environments. D2.22 - Knowing how to conduct bibliographic research and use databases and other sources of information. D2.24 - Ability to communicate professionally in written and

	spoken English, Italian and German with customers. D3.2 - Be able to work autonomously according to the own level of knowledge and understanding. D4.1 - Be able to use one of the three languages English, Italian and German, and be able to use technical terms and communication appropriately. D4.4 - Be able to structure and write technical documentation.
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes (additional info.)	Knowledge and understanding: Knowledge of advanced grammatical structures and subject-specific academic and professional lexis at the C1 level, understanding of authentic (general and subject-specific) longer spoken and written texts including specialised texts and other texts produced for various purposes and representing different varieties of English, as well as different registers and styles. Applying knowledge and understanding: Producing specific academic texts related to the field of research providing opinions and accounting for the views presented. Presenting clear descriptions, analysis and evaluation of specific fields, developing points and formulating opinions in written and oral texts which can be understood by both specialised and non-specialised audiences. Making judgments: Integrating knowledge and understanding acquired in the course with knowledge and understanding from other courses to achieve academic and professional purposes within the fields of the master design course followed.
Assessment	This is a pass/fail exam. Portfolio: a 500-word report on the student's research for their degree thesis Oral exam: poster or formal presentation of the same topic that was the focus of the Portfolio and related Q&A session demonstrating an advanced command of both spoken production and interaction. The assessment criteria are the same for non-attending students.
Evaluation Criteria	Portfolio 50% A 500-word research report showing a clear structure and ability to use a suitable and consistent referencing style Oral exam 50% Speaking tasks based on discipline-specific input to demonstrate an advanced (C1) command of both spoken production and interaction.

	The Portfolio must have been submitted according to the submission criteria in order to be admitted to the oral exam. Further details concerning the exam procedure will be provided during the course and online in the OLE for this course.
Required Readings	All material will be made available on the University's online learning environment (OLE).
Supplementary Readings	Graff, Gerald & Cathy Birkenstein. 2006. *They say, I say: the moves that matter in academic writing*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co. Bailey, Stephen. 2015. *Academic Writing: A handbook for International Students*. London: Routledge. Vince, M. 2003. *Advanced Language Practice Oxford*: Macmillan. or any other student's grammar at the B2 level or above.
Further Information	Subject Librarian: David Gebhardi, David.Gebhardi@unibz.it
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Quality education