



Academic Year 2019-2020

Syllabus

Applied English

CFU 6

Prof. D. Brown and Prof. H. Ibrahim

Course Description

The course is divided into two modules (and two classes, in order to ensure appropriate class dynamics):

- **First Module**, Applied English – ‘Communication Techniques and Presenting Yourself’, Prof. Douglas Brown, 3 CFU
- **Second Module**, Applied English – ‘Introduction to Critical Human Rights Thoughts and Social Justice’, Prof. Hauwa Ibrahim, 3 CFU

All lectures will be held at the Vermicino headquarters of the Bank of Italy:

First Module: Prof. D. Brown

Applied English – ‘Communication Techniques and Presenting Yourself’

The aim of this module is to strengthen each student’s confidence and skills with spoken and written English generally, as well as to build up their communication skills for inter-cultural understanding, academic requirements and working in professional environments. The themes of self-management and team-working will run through all of the course topics.

Teaching Method

A wide variety of formal, practical and creative teaching techniques and materials will be used in order to support the instruction and guidance of developing skills for clear communication, writing, public speaking, debate and self-expression. Active student involvement is expected in preparation for classes and participating in class exercises and activities.

Schedule of Possible Topics (depending upon the needs of the class and students)

Topic 1	Communication Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Group roles and dynamics• Barriers to effective communication• Interpersonal, listening and debating skills
Topic 2	Public Speaking and Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Confidence and self-esteem• Vocal and physical awareness• Use of storytelling techniques
Topic 3	Formal Written Communication, <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Writing Styles of essays, reports and academic papers• Description, analysis and conclusions• Research, citation and plagiarism
Topic 4	Writing Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reflective and exploratory writing• Being subjective and objective• Formality, informality and creativity

Topic 5	Body Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-awareness and reflection • Use of body language techniques • Cultural differences
Topic 6	Human Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People Management theories • Working in teams • Leadership

Textbooks and Materials

Throughout classes, the Professor will draw material from the following publications:

Topic 1: Heller, R. and Hindle, T. (1998) *The Essential Manager's Manual*, DK, Penguin, London.

The Essential Manager's Handbook (2016), DK, Penguin Random House, London.

Topic 2: Rodenburg, P. (2007) *Presence*, Penguin, London.

Lloyd-Hughes, S. (2011) *How to be Brilliant at Public Speaking. Any Audience. Any Situation.*, Pearson Life, London.

Topic 3: Reid, M. (2012) *Report Writing*, Palgrave Macmillan, London.

Bowden, J. (2011) *Writing a Report, 9th Edition*, How to Books, London.

Topic 4: Bassot, B. (2013) *The Reflective Journal*, Palgrave Macmillan, London.

Strunk, W. and White, E.B. (1999) *The Elements of Style*, Pearson, London.

McCarthy, M. and O'Dell, F. (2006) *English Vocabulary in Use - Advanced*, Cambridge.
(Particularly chapters 7-10, 13, 16-19, 49-54, 65, 78, 82-84, 86, 90-92 and 96-97.)

Topic 5: Morris, D. (2002) *People Watching, the Desmond Morris guide to body language*, Vintage, London.

Pease, A. & Pease, B. (2004) *The Definitive Book of Body Language*, McPhearsons, Australia.

Topic 6: Drucker, P. (1990) *Managing the Nonprofit Organization, Principle and Practice*, Harper Collins, London.

Drucker, P. (2007) *Management Challenges for the 21st Century*, Routledge, London.

Zander, R. & Zander, B. (2000) *The Art of Possibility*, Penguin, London.

Some of these publications are difficult to source and others are general in nature, so a number of readings and sources will be supplied by the Professor and other suitable books - on Public Speaking (Topic 2), Body Language (Topic 5) and Human Resources (Topic 6), for example - can be researched and chosen by students.

Second Module: Prof. Hauwa Ibrahim
Applied English – 'Introduction to Critical Human Rights Thoughts and Social Justice'

Introduction

Communication skills, intercultural understanding, human rights and social justice knowledge are essential for understanding the core values of global interactions. The first module by Prof. Brown, Applied English, will strengthen student confidence with communication skills and inter-cultural

understanding, as well as encourage self-management and teamwork. This second module will provide the practice for students of such skills from a human rights and social justice lens.

The World of Algorithms, artificial intelligence and robotics are fast taking center stage in global governance, business and exchanges. Understanding and engaging with global governance is being re-defined. Students are likely to come to this module with even greater acumen of the world they aspire to leave for the unborn generation. This second module will introduce basic concepts to reinforce blurs between traditional and domestic boundaries in the complex economic environment where the most powerful private companies (e.g. Facebook, Google, Amazon etc.) are becoming stateless superpowers, transcending boundaries as non-state authorities, determining our fundamental rights, duties and responsibilities and re-defining social justice. The world is becoming a collection of internally borderless mega-regional consortiums—these amalgamations are emerging as the building blocks of the future world order.

Herein, Human rights and Social justice need to encapsulate the essence of the future. As will aspire to understand the future so that our colloquy won't just be about an idealistic past or the challenging present; we will attempt to measure our mindset from a physical and virtual connectivity, building new and more stable loyalties to a “world that is more geodesic than geographical.”

Requirements

Participation, critical reflection and advancing justice; regular class attendance, active participation in discussion, read required readings, submission of all assignments

Schedule of Topics

Date of Lecture	Lecture Number	Primary Subject	Assignment
Tuesday Nov. 19 th 2019	01	Human Rights & Social Justice, (definitions of terms)	300 words on a topic of your interest
Wednesday Nov. 20 th 2019	02	Critical Human Rights: Thoughts in the Age of Technology	10 students will speak to Primary Topic, encompassing cultural perspectives
Thursday, Nov. 21 st 2019	03	Making Human Rights Relevant in Global Governance	(a) 500 words; Topic: Theory, Politics and Practice of human rights (b) 10 students will read essays, sparking all class conversation
Tuesday, Nov. 26 th 2019	04	When Human Rights become Complicated; Human Rights, Immigrants and Politics	500 words; make an argument, taking a stance on Primary Topic
Wednesday, Nov. 27 th 2019	05	Equality of Respect and Concern	(a) 10 students prepare speech of 10 minutes each (b) all students should be prepared to provide feedback (c) Topic: Frameworks of Human Respect through your Cultural Lens
Wednesday, Nov. 28 th 2019	06	Guest Speaker—TBD	European Human Right Instruments
Tuesday, Dec. 3 rd 2019	07	Countries Vs. Company; What is the Role of Human Rights?	(1) Moot Court: Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2) To be assigned in previous class: 1 Judge, 3 Jury, 4 Lawyers, 1 defenedent, 1 plaintiff, Audience, (3) All English skills will be assessed, notecards are welcome for referencing bulleted points

Wednesday, Dec. 4 th 2019	08	Right of Equalities: Nondiscrimination and Security of Persons	(1) Conversation topic: Rights of citizens vs. Rights of immigrants; and assessment of the importance of equality (2) 5 minutes speaking time (3) all ideas welcome, no judgment zone
Thursday, Dec. 5 th 2019	09	Digital Tribes and Vertical Nations in the Age of Technology	(1) Moot court: Human Right Protections; refer to lecture 07 (2) 2 pages, final response paper to Moot Court

Required readings: must be completed before the commencement of class

Costas Douzinas, *The End of Human Rights: Critical Legal Thoughts at the Turn of the Century* (Read Chapters 1,3 &14)

Giovanni Ziccardi: *Resistance, Liberation Technology and Human Rights in the Digital Age*, 2012 (Pages 1-22; 125-134; and 309-315)

Parag Khanna, *Connectography: Mapping the Future of Global Civilization*, 2018, Random House NY

Publication of Human Rights Watch 2017: *Will technology transform the human rights movement?*

Additional reading may be handed out during the class time

Assessment

First Module

Students will be graded by their preparation, attendance and active class participation; also by assessment of an individual 'Learning Portfolio'. The Learning Portfolio will be comprised of a collection of short assignments, which prepare students for the in-class activities, and short reflections based on the class activities, themes and issues which arise.

The format and due date of the Learning Portfolio will be set in agreement with the class, as will the penalties for late submission and re-submission.

The final mark will include 20% for participation in class, and 80% for the Learning Portfolio - to include 40% for the set assignments and preparation for class, and 40% for the reflection.

Students who do not submit by the agreed due date, or fail the written work, will be required to fulfill the exam requirements of non-attending students, and be marked accordingly, or required to submit a Learning Portfolio, with content as set by the module Professor, and submit an academic paper of around 2,500 words on a topic set by the module Professor, covering a major theme of the module. The final mark will comprise 60% for the formal written paper and 40% for the Learning Portfolio.

Non-attending students will be expected to read the course material (course files and documents can be found on the Global Governance home page, and the set texts in the library), submit an academic paper of around 2,500 words on a topic set by the module Professor, covering a major theme of the module, as well as take a 3-hour final exam.

The final mark will comprise 50% for the formal written paper and 50% for the final exam.

- Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the on-line material and books, which cover the themes of the course.
- They are expected to be familiar with the overall content of this material and with the theories of oral and written Communication, Public Speaking, Body Language and Human Resources.
- It is expected that the final exam will last about 3 hours. It will be comprised of a series of questions requiring answers that clearly show familiarity with the themes and theories of the course.

Second Module

Grade Breakdown: Class Participation (20%)

Class Presentation (20%)

Reading Responses (20%)

Final essay (40%)

Non-attending students will be expected to read the course material (course files and documents can be found on the Global Governance home page, and the set texts in the library), submit an academic paper of around 2,500 words on a topic set by the module Professor, covering a major theme of the module, as well as take a 3-hour final exam.

Final grade: The final grade for the Exam of Applied English is the average of the grades obtained in the two Modules. **You won't be able to keep the results of one of the modules for another exam session and same round ("appello"), the exam must be completed in the same exam session and same round ("appello"), otherwise you will have to retake both modules' exams in another round ("appello") or session.**

Office hours

Prof. Brown and Prof. Ibrahim are happy to meet students before and after classes, and by arrangement.

E-mail

Douglas.Brown@sbg.ac.at

hauwanah@gmail.com

NOTE: This course is not open to Erasmus or non Global Governance students.