English for Specific Purposes (ESP) (1st year of study, 1st and 2nd semester)

Credit value ECTS: 2+2

Type of course: (Optional)

Discipline code: A.EMIAIA.C.116

Course Professor: Simona Catrinel AVARVAREI, Associate Professor, PhD

COURSE objective (lecture and seminar)

The course is designed to strengthen students' ability to understand and apply the fundamental structures of the English language, with a particular emphasis on both written and spoken communication at the intermediate to upper-intermediate levels. Students will be encouraged to explore and analyse the complexities of English grammar and morphology, while also engaging with specialised, life sciences–oriented vocabulary.

Building on their existing skills across all four language domains—reading, writing, listening, and speaking—the course aims to develop students into confident, independent users of English. A central objective is to equip them with the communication skills necessary to thrive in today's multicultural, dynamic, and intellectually stimulating international environment.

Contents (syllabus)

Course (chapters/subchapters)
The Article - the definite article; the indefinite article; the zero article.
The Noun – gender; number; nouns of foreign origin; verb-noun agreement.
The Adjective – degrees of comparison; irregularities.
The Adverb – degrees of comparison; irregularities.
The Pronoun.
The Verb – classes and functions.

Seminars
Outlook towards plant kingdom - Wood Wide Web
Weather and environmental issues – a typical British topic?
Education
Food and Diet
Town & Country
Geography

Global Problems
Careers in Technology
Technology and Society
Appropriate Technology
Manufacturing
Alternative Energy / The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind
Environmental Engineering
Food and Agriculture
Personal Entertainment
Plant Anatomy

Recommended reading

1. Avarvarei Simona Catrinel, *English for life-science professionals*, Editura Ion Ionescu de la Brad, Iasi, 2020.
2. Paul Brassley & Richard Soffe, *Agriculture - A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford University Press, 2016.
3. Eric H. Glendinning, *Oxford English for Careers – Technology 1*, OUP, 2007.
4. Eric H. Glendinning, *Alison Pohl, Oxford English for Careers – Technology 2*, OUP, 2008.

Assessment form	Assessment methods	Percentage of the final grade
Exam	Final written test	60%
Appraisal of students' activity throughout the semester	On-going oral evaluation; hands-on in-class activity in seminars	40%

Contact

Simona Catrinel AVARVAREI, Assist. prof. PhD
Faculty of Agriculture - IULS Iași
Aleea Mihail Sadoveanu nr. 3, Iași, 700490, Romania
E-mail: catrinel.avarvarei@iuls.ro