

1. BASIC INFORMATION

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| Course | General English for Fundamentals of the Architecture |
| Degree program | Fundamentals of the Architecture |
| School | School of Architecture, Engineering and Design |
| Year | 4th Year |
| ECTS | 6 standard ECTS (150 hours) |
| Credit type | Basic |
| Language(s) | English |
| Delivery mode | Face-to-face |
| Semester | Semester 1 |
| Academic year | 2025/2026 |
| Coordinating professor | Verónica Barbeta Talón |

2. PRESENTATION

English Language (6 ECTS) is one of the four cross-curricular subjects in this degree. The study of the English language will be present throughout all the learning process, the study of the literature not being limited to the Spanish language. Apart from the lectures in English, software, conferences, presentations and bibliography in the English language will also be used for that purpose.

The objective of this module is to develop communicative competence in the foreign language equivalent to level B2.2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

The course is designed to provide future graduates with knowledge and skills that will allow them to communicate in the foreign language and to interact with their peers in professional situations.

3. COMPETENCIES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Core competencies:

- CC1: Students must demonstrate a deep knowledge and understanding of a field of study that is based on secondary education and that, whilst supported by advanced textbooks, involves acquaintance with the vanguard of their area of study.
- CC2: Students must apply their knowledge to their work and vocation in a professional way and must demonstrate their skills in sustaining arguments and solving problems within their field of study.
- CC3: Students must be able to gather data, usually within their field of study, interpret it and make judgments and considerations on relevant social, scientific or ethical issues.
- CC4: Students must be able to convey information, together with ideas, problems and solutions to a specialized or non-specialized audience. □ CC5: Students must have developed the necessary learning skills so as to undertake subsequent studies with autonomy.

General competencies:

- CG1: students must develop a knowledge of the history and theories of Architecture, as well as the arts, technologies and human sciences related to it.
- CG7: students must understand not only the relationship between people and buildings, and of these and their environment, but also that of the buildings and the spaces between them, depending on the needs and on human scale.

Cross-curricular competencies:

- CS2: Self-confidence: The ability to assess our own results, performance and capabilities with the inner conviction that we are capable of meeting the demands of a task or challenge.
- CS4: Analysis and synthesis skills: Being able to break down complex situations into their constituent parts, and also to assess other alternatives and approaches in order to find the best solutions. Synthesis seeks to reduce complexity in order to facilitate understanding and/or problem solving.
- CS5: Capacity to apply knowledge: Being able to use knowledge acquired in academic contexts in situations that resemble as closely as possible the reality of the chosen future profession.
- CS6: Oral and written communication skills: The ability to transmit and receive information, ideas, opinions and attitudes for the purposes of comprehension and action, oral communication involving speech and gestures, and written communication writing and/or graphics.
- CS7: Ethical values: The ability to think and act according to universal principles based on individual worth and full development of the human personality, and which entails a commitment to certain social values.

Learning outcomes:

- LO1: to understand spoken communication in English both from recorded and live sources, i.e. dialogues, talks, instructions, current affairs, personal issues when communication is clear and not too fast.
- LO2: to start and maintain conversations about familiar topics or expressing feelings. LO3: to ask and follow directions.
- LO4: to generally understand television and radio programs.
- LO5: to read and understand short articles in newspapers and magazines dealing both with familiar issues and specific technical vocabulary from the field of architecture. LO6: to understand and analyse short literary text about familiar topics.
- LO7: to produce short texts expressing personal opinions.
- LO8: to write personal letters talking about common experiences and events.
- LO9: to fill in simple forms or answer adverts asking for additional information. LO10: to make multimedia presentations in English about personal topics.
- LO11: to understand and write different kinds of curriculum vitae.
- LO12: to search for information in the internet (Web Quest) and cite correctly.

The following table shows the relationship between the competencies developed during the course and the learning outcomes pursued:

| Competencies | Learning outcomes |
|---|--|
| CC1, GC1, GC7, CCC2, CCC4, SC1 | LO1: to understand spoken communication in English both from recorded and live sources, i.e. dialogues, talks, instructions, current affairs, personal issues when communication is clear and to too fast. |
| CC1, CC2, CC4, GC1, CCC2, CCC4, CCC5, SC2 | LO2: to start and maintain conversations about familiar topics or expressing feelings |

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|---|--|
| CC1, CC3, GC7, CCC4, CCC5, SC1, SC3 | LO3: to ask and follow directions. |
| CC1, GC1, GC7, CCC2, CCC4, SC1 | LO4: to generally understand television and radio programs. |
| CC2, CC3, CC5, GC1, CCC4, SC3, SC5 | LO5: to read and understand short articles in newspapers and magazines dealing both with familiar issues and specific technical vocabulary from the field of architecture. |
| CC1, CC3, CC5, GC1, CCC4, SC3, SC5 | LO6: to understand and analyse short literary text about familiar topics. |
| CC1, CC3, CC5, GC1, CCC4, SC4 | LO7: to produce short texts expressing personal opinions |
| CC1, CC3, CC5, GC1, CCC4, SC4 | LO8: to write personal letters talking about common experiences and events. |
| CC3, CC4, CCC4, SC4, SC5 | LO9: to fill in simple forms or answer adverts asking for additional information. |
| CC2, CC3, CC4, GC1, GC7, CCC2, CCC4, CCC7, SC2, SC4, SC6, SC7 | LO10: to make multimedia presentations in English about personal topics. |
| CC1, CC3, CC5, GC1, CCC4, SC3, SC4 | LO11: to understand and write different kinds of curriculum vitae. |
| CC2, CC3, CCC4, SC4 | LO12: to search for information in the internet (Web Quest) and cite correctly. |

4. CONTENT

The following topics are presented in the subject:

- Topic 1: Vocabulary related to topics of general or current interest.
- Topic 2: Listening practice of content presented both live and recordings.
- Topic 3: Active participation in dialogues and debates about general interest topics.
- Topic 4: Reading and commenting on topics of general or current interest.
- Topic 5: Core competencies to present a multimedia oral presentation.
- Topic 6: Internet searches and its appropriate citation and quotation.

The previous topics are presented in the following learning units:

- Unit 1: Introduction. History of Architecture and Design. Achievements.
- Unit 2: Qualities of an Architect/ Designer. Careers.
- Unit 3: Describing buildings.
- Unit 4: Specific topics and concepts.
- Unit 5: Sustainability
- Unit 6: Entrepreneurship

5. TEACHING-LEARNING METHODOLOGIES

The types of teaching-learning methodologies used are indicated below:

- Guided work, practical exercises and problem-solving tasks.

- Group work.
- Autonomous work.
- Tutorials, academic follow-up and assessment.

6. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Listed below are the types of learning activities and the number of hours the student will spend on each one:

Campus-based mode:

| Learning activity | Number of hours |
|---|------------------|
| Guided work, practical exercises and problem-solving tasks. | 75 hours |
| Group work. | 25 hours |
| Autonomous work. | 25 hours |
| Tutorials, academic follow-up and assessment. | 25 hours |
| TOTAL | 150 hours |

Online mode:

| Learning activity | Number of hours |
|---|------------------|
| Guided work, practical exercises and problem-solving tasks. | 75 hours |
| Group work. | 25 hours |
| Autonomous work. | 25 hours |
| Tutorials, academic follow-up and assessment. | 25 hours |
| TOTAL | 150 hours |

7. ASSESSMENT

Listed below are the assessment systems used and the weight each one carries towards the final course grade:

Campus-based and on-line mode:

| ASSESSMENT SYSTEM | WEIGHT | USE OF AI |
|--|--------|-------------|
| AI PROJECT | 30% | ASSESSED |
| LISTENING AND READING COMPREHENSION | 15% | NOT ALLOWED |
| WRITING | 15% | NOT ALLOWED |
| FINAL PROJECT | 40% | PROMOTED |

Further details about the AI-use policy will be published through the virtual campus platform once the course has started.

When you access the course on the *Campus Virtual*, you'll find a description of the assessment activities you have to complete, as well as the delivery deadline and assessment procedure for each one.

7.1. First exam period

In order to pass the subject during the first exam period, you should obtain a grade superior or equal to 5 out of 10 as the final grade (equivalent to the average grade of the graded tasks plus the final assessment)*, taking that into account:

The final test will account for 40% of the final grade. It is obligatory to pass the final test with a grade superior or equal to 5.

Regarding the rest of activities, which include case studies, problem solving, projects, text and report writing, as well as oral presentations, these will account for 60% of the final grade. It is necessary to obtain a grade of 5 or higher on the final test in order for the grades from said activities to be taken into account for your final grade.

*Should you not have the minimum level required to take the subject, your final grade will be the average result of 4 assessments covering the different skills. You should obtain a grade superior to 5 out of 10.

If you are granted the chance of sitting the early call in December, the assessment criteria applied will be those of the First Exam Period.

Attendance: you must attend at least 50% of the on-site classes and participate actively in the activities, debates and presentations.

7.2. Second exam period

In order to pass the subject during the second exam period, you should obtain a grade superior or equal to 5 out of 10 as the final grade (weighted average grade) of the subject*.

The activities which did not achieve a passing grade in the first exam period should be submitted, after having received feedback from the teacher, as well as those activities that were not originally submitted.

* Should you not have the minimum level required to take the subject, your final grade will be the average result of 4 assessments covering the different skills. You should obtain a grade superior to 5 out of 10.

8. SCHEDULE

This table shows the delivery deadline for each assessable activity in the course:

| Assessable activities | Deadline |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Activity 2: AI project | Week 6 |
| Activity 3: Listening comprehension | Week 9 |
| Activity 4: Reading and writing | Week 14 |
| Activity 5: Final project | Week 18 |

This schedule may be subject to changes for logistical reasons relating to the activities. The student will be notified of any change as and when appropriate.

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Here is the recommended bibliography:

- EVANS Virginia, DOOLEY Jenny, COOK Dave. (2015) Career Paths, Architecture. UK: Express Publishing.
- DOFF Adrian, THAINE Craig, PUCHTA Herbert, STRANKS Jeff, LEWIS-JONES Peter. (2016) Empower B2. UK: Cambridge University Press.
- NORRIS Roy. (2015) Ready for First (3rd Edition). UK: Macmillan.

10. DIVERSITY MANAGEMENT UNIT

Students with specific learning support needs:

Curricular adaptations and adjustments for students with specific learning support needs, in order to guarantee equal opportunities, will be overseen by the Diversity Management Unit (UAD: Unidad de Atención a la Diversidad).

It is compulsory for this Unit to issue a curricular adaptation/adjustment report, and therefore students with specific learning support needs should contact the Unit at unidad.diversidad@universidadeuropea.es at the beginning of each semester.

11. ONLINE SURVEYS

Your opinion matters!

The Universidad Europea encourages you to participate in several surveys which help identify the strengths and areas we need to improve regarding professors, degree programs and the teaching-learning process.

The surveys will be made available in the “surveys” section in virtual campus or via e-mail.

Your assessment is necessary for us to improve.

Thank you very much for your participation.