

# English for Doctoral Studies

Academic year 2016/2017

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## I. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Based on the academic responsibilities of doctoral students and young researchers, the course focus is equally divided between two major areas: **producing written discourse of an adequate standard and being able to present and discuss research, while networking with potential research partners or partner institutions and businesses** (see Syllabus below for more details).

The syllabus therefore revolves around the relevant language content and skills and sub-skills that can assist doctoral students in achieving their professional goals with greater ease and succeeding in a highly competitive environment.

It combines technical English topics and their linguistically adequate usage in written and spoken academic registers, while developing language functions such as presenting, negotiating, explaining or proposing.

## II. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS

### A. ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Attendance at my classes is not required, as you can take the English exam any time throughout your doctoral studies. However, once you come to class, promptness and participation are your responsibility and are required. Participation means being prepared to discuss assignments and concepts under consideration, sharing your experiences and opinions thoughtfully, and completing all activities judiciously.

### B. ASSESSMENT

I/ Ideal case scenario: the assessment will be based on the student's actual **conference participation** (including presenting a paper) and **article submission**, both of these in English and clearly evidenced.

II/ Real life scenario: **simulation** of the **conference participation** and **article submission** process, following the customary procedure of submitting an article abstract, presenting your research and ideas at a conference and writing and submitting an article. Abstract submissions can be made at any time, however, at least **one month prior to your oral presentation, i.e. the ORAL PART OF EXAM**. You have to submit your completed article, i.e. the **WRITTEN PART OF EXAM**, within one month of your oral presentation. If all three parts (abstract, presentation and article) are favourably assessed, your PhD English exam is completed and finalised.

Your article has to follow one specific style sheet and submission guidelines of a relevant scientific periodical of your choice. It should be between 4000 – 7000 words, preceded by a 200-word abstract and 5 to 8 keywords (use Times New Roman, 12 point). Each submission should also be followed by a brief biographical note (in the third person) about the author. It should be sent, in .doc or .docx format, to the following e-mail address: [matuchova.k@seznam.cz](mailto:matuchova.k@seznam.cz)

As to the content, you can either choose the topic of your dissertation, or the topic of your diploma thesis.

### C. GRADING

**Scientific paper/journal article submission** – 50% of overall favourable assessment; **oral presentation/conference participation** – 50% of overall favourable assessment.

## III. COURSE SYLLABUS

### ➤ TERM 1

- Week 1-2:** **Laser technology and drilling;**  
Referencing and citations
- Week 3-4:** **Space research; Design and construction;**  
Article structure
- Week 5-6:** **Automotive industry and aeronautics;**  
Opening and closing in presentations
- Week 7-8:** **Mechanical and electronic engineering;**  
Presentation structure
- Week 9-10:** **Materials and chemistry;**  
Using voice
- Week 11-12:** **Civil engineering and environment;**  
Visual presentation support

### ➤ TERM 2

- Week 1-2:** **ICT and security;**  
Using facts, figures and graphs
- Week 3-4:** **Logistics and health and safety;**  
Nonverbal communication
- Week 5-6:** **Elements of labour law;**  
Rapport building
- Week 7-8:** **Destructive and non-destructive testing;**  
Impact techniques
- Week 9-10:** **Aviation;**  
Meetings
- Week 11-12:** **Nanotechnologies;**  
Leading a discussion

## IV. COURSE TEXTBOOKS

**BONAMY, David (2011): *Technical English 4*, London: Pearson Longman.**  
**POWELL, Mark (2011): *Dynamic Presentations*, Cambridge: CUP.**

## RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS & REFERENCE BOOKS

HEWINGS, M. (2013): *Advanced Grammar in Use*, Cambridge: CUP.  
MANN, M. – S. TAYLOR-KNOWLES (2008): *Destination C1 & C2*. Grammar and Vocabulary, Oxford: Macmillan Education.  
IBBOTSON, M. (2009): *Professional English in Use Engineering*, Cambridge: CUP.