

UNIVERSIDAD DE COSTA RICA
TURISMO ECOLÓGICO
PROGRAMA CURSO: INGLÉS CONVERSACIONAL I
II Semestre, 2014

Datos Generales

Sigla: TE-0300

Nombre del curso: Inglés Conversacional I

Tipo de curso: Regular

Número de créditos: 3

Número de horas semanales presenciales: 4

Número de horas semanales de trabajo independiente del estudiante: 8

Requisitos: LM-1002

Ubicación en el plan de estudio: sexto nivel

Horario del curso: Jueves 1- 4:50 pm

Datos del Profesor

Nombre: Natalia Ramirez Casavolone

Correo Electrónico: nataliarc@hotmail.com

Horario de Consulta: L: 1-4:50, K: 10:30-12, 1p.m – 3:30 p.m Of. #4

1. Descripción del curso

This workshop-type course has been designed to help students improve and increase fluency and accuracy in Ecotourism-related topics. The course will provide personal, interpersonal, and creative strategies for students to build on their interactive skills. Since one of the major purposes of education is to enable a person to speak clearly and confidently, the course will also provide the learners with the basic principles of speech communication so they can achieve clarity, confidence, and effectiveness in oral presentations or demonstrations.

2. Objetivo General

By the end of the semester, students will have be able to:

1. Build up strategic, sociolinguistic, and discourse competence in English.
 2. Increase fluency on issues concerning Ecotourism and express ideas with greater confidence and solid background knowledge.
 3. Organize, plan, and present informative speeches based on audience-centered interaction.
 4. Acknowledge their personal contribution to the conservation and destruction of the environment.
 5. Increase their use of essential idioms and phrasal verbs.
 6. Produce more complex utterances using advanced structures.
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3. Contenidos * These are posible topics that could be developed throughout the semester.

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|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Biodiveristy | 11. Evolution of Ecoturism | 21. Environmental Issues |
| 2. Pre-colombian cultures | 12. Endangered Species | 22. Natural History |
| 3. National Reality | 13. Social Problems affecting the Costa Rican society | |
| 4. Hotel Management | 14. Global Warming and its consequences | |
| 5. Hotel Industry | 15. Life zones | |
| 6. Lodges | 16. Tourist Marketing | |
| 7. Costa Rican History | 17. Lodging in Costa Rica | |
| 8. Describing Specific Species | 18. Guidelines for being a tourist guide | |
| 9. National Parks and Reserves | 19. Tourist Attractions | |
| 10. Recycling | 20. Taxonomies | |

4. Metodología

Course Approach

The course will be organized in a way that provides the students with practical knowledge and hands-on experience which will prepare them to interact successfully with native and non-native speakers of English on a variety of environmental topics. Classroom time will be subdivided into the following parts:

A. Public speaking

Activities to analyze listeners, how to be sensitive to their needs and interests, and how to talk to and with them, not at them. Students will be encouraged to communicate ideas to real people, rather than merely stand up and go through the motions of “giving a speech” Practical activities to analyze the audience, select a topic and specific purpose, devise a central idea, find verbal and visual support material, and design effective introductions and conclusions as well.

B. ESP (English for specific purposes)

Each class period, students in small groups will have to present an article related to topics that have to do with the students' major. The students have to choose an article related to the topic suggested or any other of their interest. The article has to be approved by the professor and sent or given to the rest of the class a week before the presentation. These presentations must be very dynamic and well-organized. Students are expected to incorporate the principles of public speaking in these demonstrations and prepare a short activity for the group. The day of the presentation, the rest of the class will bring a questionnaire (10 questions including the answers) to be used in a question-answer exchange. This will be a follow-up activity to grasp the content of each article and assimilate the main ideas. The evaluation sheet which will be used to assess these demonstrations, it will be discussed with the students.

C. Grammar and idioms

Weekly review of slang and phrasal verbs from the course anthology. Exercises on the following grammatical structures: past tenses, past perfect tense, would+base verb for past habits, gerunds and infinitives, review of passive voice, reported speech, adverbs, tag questions and third conditional clauses. Any other grammar structure the students want to study or review will be taken into account.



D. Bulletin Boards

Students in groups will prepare a bulletin board periodically to be exhibited to the college community. The topics must be selected from the student-generated list which follows these instructions. Students are expected to be as creative as possible in organizing the visuals and information on the board. The evaluation form and rubrics which will be used to assess the activity will be discussed before the presentation. The day of the oral presentation, students may send invitations in advance invite to other classes, colleagues, or foreign guests. It is recommended to prepare a social interactive activity such as refreshments, goodies, raffles, games, or any other similar activity to engage and motivate the audience.

Possible topics: biodiversity, pre-Colombian cultures, national reality, hotel management, hotel industry, lodges, Costa Rican history, describing specific species, national parks and reserves, recycling, evolution of ecotourism, endangered species, social problems affecting the Costa Rican society, global warming and its consequences, life zones, tourist marketing, lodging in CR, guidelines for being a tourist guide, tourist attractions, taxonomies, the TLC, environmental issues, natural history.

E. Field trip

The field trip will be held on October ___ and it will imply careful, systematic preparation. The goal is for the students to put the language of biodiversity into application in a real context. The destination will be the Isla de Chira. Appropriate guidelines will be provided throughout the course.

I. Responsibilities.

-Because this course meets only once a week, attendance and participation are essential. It is also necessary to arrive on time.

-Avoid eating in class or coming in and out. Take advantage of breaks for that purpose.

- All assignments must be completed ON TIME on the day assigned. No make-up assignments or quizzes will be accepted.

-8 hours per week is the minimum amount of time that should be spent on reviewing and practicing material covered in class and carrying out assignments. Because this course will be moving at a rapid pace, it will be very important that you refer to the readings and classroom materials to reinforce learning.

- No Spanish will be allowed in class. Students should take advantage of the limited opportunity they have to express themselves in a second language once a week.

5. Evaluación

<i>Descripción</i>	<i>Porcentaje</i>
2 oral presentations on scientific articles	20% (10% each presentation)
Bulletin Board Exhibit	10%
Reading Comprehension Questionnaires	10%
4 quizzes on grammar and idioms	20% (5% each)
Final Project (Field trip and Isla de Chira Tourism Fair)	30% (Performance during the trip 10%, oral presentation 20%)
Class Participation: attendance, participation, active participation in class discussions	10%
Total: 100%	

Consideraciones sobre la evaluación

No habrá exámenes o presentaciones de reposición sin una justificación válida (como por ejemplo: enfermedad -con dictámen médico- o muerte de un familiar). Se debe presentar la documentación pertinente en un lapso de 8 días después de la ausencia como estipula el Reglamento de Régimen Académico Estudiantil.

Por su naturaleza, las pruebas cortas pueden no ser anunciadas a los estudiantes con antelación, de esta manera queda claramente especificada la condición en la que se realizarán estas pruebas y se cumple lo estipulado en el Reglamento del Régimen Académico Estudiantil en su capítulo V y artículo 15 que vigila el cumplimiento del artículo 18 del mismo reglamento. Estas pruebas evaluarán los contenidos vistos en clases anteriores.

Por favor noten que las normas universitarias clara y enfáticamente estipulan que los teléfonos celulares deben de ser apagados durante el tiempo lectivo. Según oficio ELM-CENV-984-2004, en relación con la Circular No.31-2000 suscrita por el entonces Vicerrector de Docencia, el hacer uso del celular en forma permanente en el tiempo destinado al desarrollo de las lecciones, NO es adecuado porque constituye un distractor en el proceso enseñanza – aprendizaje; en consecuencia, es PROHIBIDO que los (as) profesores (as) y los (as) estudiantes hagan uso del mismo en el aula durante el desarrollo de actividades académicas, excepto en situaciones de emergencia o de excepción, condicionado.

El examen de ampliación, en caso de ser necesario, se programará luego, de acuerdo a la disponibilidad del estudiante y el profesor.

6. Cronograma

Week / date	Content / Activities
Week 1 August 14	AUTO EVALUACION MEETING Getting acquainted Syllabus discussion Course orientation and guidelines
Week 2 August 21	Game, Introduction to public speaking, Group presentations on informative speeches
Week 3 August 28	First Oral Presentation: Ecotourism and the Environment Question- answer session Idioms and Grammar
Week 4 September 4	Second oral presentation: Costa Rica: ecotourism, geography, habitats, parks. Idioms and grammar. Question-answer session. Introductions and conclusions of presentations.
Week 5 September 11	Idioms and grammar. First bulletin board exhibit.
Week 6 September 18	Third oral presentation: Ecology and natural history. Question-answer session. Idioms and grammar.
Week 7 September 25	Idioms and grammar. Second bulletin board exhibition. Delivering the speech.
Week 8 October 2	Fourth oral presentation Ecosystems. Reaching the audience.
Week 9 October 9	Idioms and grammar. Third bulletin board.
Week 10 October 16	Idioms and Grammar. Start making preparations for field trip. Fifth oral presentation: Amphibians. Question-answer session.
Week 11 October 23	Fourth bulletin board. Idioms and Grammar.
Week 12 October 30	Sixth oral presentation: The Costa Rican avifauna. Question-Answer session. Grammar and idioms.
Week 13 November 6	Fifth bulletin board. Idioms and Grammar.
Week 14 November 13	Grammar and idioms.



Week 15 November 20	Sixth Final bulletin board. Review
Week 16 November 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final project: oral report on the field trip. - Course wrap-up

7. Referencias

Benjamin, S. *The Public Speaking Handbook*. U.S.A: GoodYear Books, 1996.

Schaller, K. *Principles of effective public speaking: Student workbook*. Boston, MA: McGraw-Hill, 2002.

McCarthy, M & O'Dell, F. *English Collocations in Advanced Use*. UK: Cambridge University Press, 2008.

Kohnhorst, K.A *Phrasal Verb Affair*. Albany, NY: Pro Lingua Associates, Publishers, 2003.

Watkins, Dana. *The Idiom Advantage: Fluency in Speaking and Listening*. White Plains, NY: Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, Inc, 1995.

Instructions for the Oral Presentation

General Instructions

1. You will work in pairs. (Not individually not in trios or more)
2. You will prepare a formal presentation on the following topic: _____.
3. Each member has to speak about 4-5 minutes. Be sure your participation is equally divided.
4. No reading will be allowed, you may have with you general notes during the presentation time, and you can use them to guide yourself.
5. You are expected to answer different questions that can arise from the teacher or classmates after you have finished your presentation. This will also be evaluated.
6. Start your presentation with a clear introduction of the topic you will develop.
7. Provide specific explanations, arguments, examples, descriptions that support your ideas.
8. You are expected to be well prepared, be concise, and have good command of the topic.
9. You should take into account all the aspects about public speaking discussed in the course so far (transitions, introduction, conclusion, organization, pauses, body language, etc)
10. The following are the aspects to be evaluated: communication, content, language use, structure and elements of the speech, organization- preparation, delivery, quality and use of visual aids (make good use of these so they enhance the understanding of your topic.)

Instructions for the Bulletin Board Presentation

General Instructions

1. You will work in pairs. (Not individually not in trios or more). The presentation should last at least 25 min
2. The objective is that you practice speaking in front of a larger number of people and that you interact and manage the audience effectively. As well as designing creative and suitable visual material and incorporating it well to the presentation.
3. You will prepare a bulletin board (a board on the wall of a classroom, office, where things (such as written notices or pictures) are put so that they can be seen by many people. *(Merriam Webster Dictionary)*. You can be as creative as you wish in the design, but you must consult your ideas with the teacher in order to check feasibility according to the objective of this activity and resources available.
3. Your visual material must be organized in a way that it gives effectiveness to your presentation, this means they should influence directly the perception of your audience towards a better understanding of the information.
4. You should invite other students and/or professors from your major or related to the field to the presentation. You can also put up fliers inviting to the activity, around the campus.
5. You can prepare any social interactive activity to engage the audience (refreshments, raffles, games, etc)
6. You are expected to be well prepared, concise and have good command of the topic

11. You should take into account all the aspects about public speaking discussed in the course so far (transitions, introduction, conclusion, organization, pauses, body language, etc)
12. The following are the aspects to be evaluated: communication, content, language use, structure and elements of the speech, organization- preparation, delivery, quality and use of visual aids (make



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good use of these so they enhance the understanding of your topic.) Plus the ones chosen for the bulletin board