

COURSE SYLLABUS

Name: Oral Communication II	Requisites: LM-1230
LM-1240	Co-requisites: LM-1244 & LM-1245
Credits: 5	Cycle: IV
Schedule: 6 hours / week in-class work 9 hours / week out-of-class work	Type: B.A. in English and English Teaching.
	Course Modality: 100% in-person

I. DESCRIPTION

This course is **100% in person** and is addressed to second-year students of the English B.A. and English Teaching B.A. Focusing on a communicative approach, this course will prepare students to express themselves orally in English at an intermediate level of fluency and accuracy (pronunciation, structure, vocabulary, and content). Listening and reading selections on the topic related to technology will provide students with comprehension practice, help develop listening and reading skills, promote discussion, and provide lexical and syntactic models. As opposed to what they do in LM-1230 Oral Communication I, the students will be introduced to public speaking in the form of an informative speech. Phonetically speaking, they will continue reinforcing the English vowel system studied and practiced in LM-1230 and working on transcriptions using the Symbols for Phonetic Transcription in the Oral Courses Section; however, the main focus of this course will be based on most of the English consonant system and its variations. Students will complete the consonant system in LM-1351 Communication and Pronunciation Techniques I. *Mediación Virtual* will be used as the main platform to share materials.

II. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

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

1. talk about the current topic related to technology.
2. exchange information, ideas, opinions, attitudes, and feelings using appropriate language functions.
3. look for main ideas and specific details in spoken or written texts using note taking, summarizing, guessing meaning from context, skimming, scanning, and paraphrasing strategies.
4. establish spelling-pronunciation correspondences.
5. discriminate between different sounds in isolation, in minimal pairs, and in sentences.
6. pronounce vowel and consonant sounds accurately.
7. transcribe high-frequency and topic-related words using the Symbols for Phonetic Transcription in the Oral Courses Section.
8. incorporate the vocabulary and the structures modeled in the listening and reading passages in their everyday speech.

III. CONTENTS

A. Topics for discussion

1. Theory of Informative Speeches
2. Technology

B. Phonetics

1. Position of consonants in English
2. Classification of consonants: place, manner, voicing
3. Suffix *-ed*: Rules and exceptions in adjectival forms, e.g., naked, crooked, etc.
4. Stop consonants in initial, middle, and final position: /p/, /b/, /t/, /d/, /k/, /g/
5. Contrasts: /θ/ and /ð/; interdental versus /s/, /z/, and /t/; /f/ and /v/; /v/ versus /b/
6. Sibilants /s/ - /z/, /ʃ/ - /ʒ/, /tʃ/ - /dʒ/
7. Contrast between /ʒ/ and /dʒ/
8. Contrast between /tʃ/ and /ʃ/
9. Suffix *-s* and irregular plurals (e.g. wife-wives)
10. Phonetic transcriptions
11. Spelling-pronunciation correspondences

IV. METHODOLOGY

This is an **in-person** course; hence, the students are expected to attend class and participate actively in order to achieve the academic objectives. They are also required to do the assigned readings **in advance** and to comply with assignments. By using different reading and speaking activities, instructors will elicit information from students. Slide shows, videos, audios or listening exercises, speeches, analysis of ads, and technological advancements will be used by both instructors and students. The students will be required to work in pairs to present two informative speeches about technology. By analyzing and discussing readings on technology, the students will reinforce public speaking skills and pronunciation. The students will also be asked to transcribe words to be checked, discussed, and analyzed in class. The use of the platform **Mediación Virtual** might be necessary for students to complete some out-of-class assignments. Some sessions or segments thereof might be recorded. Students will be notified when recording will start so that they can decide whether they want to be on the recording.

V. EVALUATION

- 30% Oral exam I (Tribunal)
- 30% Oral exam II (Tribunal)
- 20% Speeches (one before the midterm and the other one after the midterm) 10% each
- 20% Quizzes (minimum 2: oral and/or written quizzes)

In oral exams

- The exams could be administered face to face.
- Besides your instructor, you will be evaluated by at least one more instructor teaching this course.
- You will be recorded.
- You will work in pairs.
- All content (reading / listening passages and presentations) will be evaluated and included in written and/or oral exams. For each exam, the students will receive two evaluation forms with the percentages obtained and feedback.

For the speeches, you will

- work in pairs,
- be responsible for the recording of your presentation with your own recording device,
- receive an evaluation form with the percentages obtained and feedback.

Vowel and consonant sounds and transcriptions will be evaluated in all oral presentations and written exams.

All students will be subject to the *Reglamento de Evaluación de la Universidad de Costa Rica*.

VI. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Lujan, B. (2008). *The American Accent Guide* (2nd Ed.). Utah: Lingual Arts.

Articles, videos, and audios taken from different online sources.

VII. TENTATIVE CHRONOGRAM

Important Dates

Oral Exam I: May 4-11th

Oral Exam II: June 29 – July 3rd

Final grades: July 6th

Ampliación: July 15th

DATES	ACTIVITIES
Week 1 March 9-13	Course syllabus Ice breakers Theory of Informative Speeches
Week 2 March 16-20	Introduction to technology: technology survey Pronunciation review Distribution of speeches (dates and topics)
Week 3 March 23-27	Reading: <i>The Impact of AI on Human Society</i> Pronunciation
HOLY WEEK March 30 – April 3	
Week 4 April 6-10	Reading: <i>The Future of Robotics</i> Pronunciation Written Quiz 1 (in lab) 1. _____ 2. _____ _____ _____
Week 5 April 13-17	Reading: <i>Robots in Education</i> Pronunciation 1. _____ 2. _____ _____ _____

Week 6 April 20- 24 Semana U	Reading: <i>Can Robots Replace Teachers?</i> Pronunciation 1. _____ 2. _____ _____ General feedback on speeches Oral quiz on the 22 and 24 th
Week 7 April 27 and 29	Feedback on oral quiz 1 Continue with pronunciation Review
Week 8 May 4, 6, 11	ORAL EXAM I