

Subject card

Subject name and code	Practical English II., PG_00177147						
Field of study	American Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject		2025/2026		
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	1		Language of instruction		English		
Semester of study	2		ECTS credits		9.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		exam		
Conducting unit	Division of American Studies -> Institute of English and American Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		mgr Alina Mazurkiewicz				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	90.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	90
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	90		6.0		129.0	225
Subject objectives	The aim of the classes in the second semester is to continue improving the practical knowledge of American English from level C1+ to level C2 according to CEFR. The language training will cover four operational skills: listening and reading comprehension, and speaking and creating academic written texts. During the course, students will expand the range of vocabulary and language structures and their correct use, create and deliver speeches as well as develop language fluency and correct pronunciation.The PNJA II module consists of: Integrated Skills component, Written Academic English component and Spoken Rhetoric component.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[AMERMU2_K08] Student is ready to responsibly perform professional roles in various spheres of cultural and economic activities related to knowledge of cultural contexts and the English language, taking into account changing social needs.	The student is ready to fulfil responsible professional roles using practical English at the C2 level.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERMU2_K09] Student is ready to observe, develop and disseminate the principles of ethics in the performance of tasks related to the program of study, in research work in the field of American literature and cultural studies, and in professional work.	The student is ready to observe, develop and disseminate ethical principles while performing tasks related to learning practical English at C2 level.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/report [SK3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_U03] Student is able to properly select sources and evaluate, select, critically analyze, synthesize and creatively interpret and present the collected information, using advanced information and communication techniques, especially in the field of American literature and cultural studies and in his professional work.	The student is able to appropriately select sources and make evaluation, selection, critical analysis, synthesis and creative interpretation and presentation of collected information, using advanced information and communication techniques in the scope of practical knowledge of English at C2 level.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/report [SU3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_U07] Student is able to prepare written work and oral presentations in English at the C2 level, using specialized terminology from the fields of literary and cultural and religious studies.	The student is able to prepare written work and speeches in English at the C2 level.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU3] text preparation/written work [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[AMERMU2_K01] Student is ready to critically assess the extent of her/his knowledge and skills, especially in the fields of American literature and cultural studies, contextual knowledge of American studies and the English language.	The student is ready to critically assess the extent of his knowledge and skills in the field of practical English at the C2 level.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_U06] Student is able to conduct a debate on American literature, culture and society, present and evaluate different opinions and positions and discuss them.	The student is able to conduct a debate in English at the C2 level, present and evaluate various opinions and positions and discuss them.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[AMERMU2_W15] Student knows and understands selected issues of the auxiliary sciences of American literary and cultural studies, including history, society, politics and art, providing the contextual knowledge necessary for the study of literary and cultural phenomena and processes in North America.	The student knows and understands selected issues from the field of general humanistic knowledge and knowledge of contemporary world, including North America, appearing in the language learning materials at level C2.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_U10] Student is able to independently plan and implement her/his own lifelong learning and guide others in this regard within the framework of American Studies and her/his chosen sphere of professional activity.	The student is able to independently plan and implement their own lifelong learning of English at C2 level.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_U08] Student is able to speak and write in English at the C2 level.	The student is able able to speak and write, read and listen with comprehension and take part in discussions in English at the C2 level.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU3] text preparation/written work [SU4] test/exam - oral or written

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	[AMERMU2_K03] Student is ready to make decisions independently and to critically evaluate and accept responsibility for the consequences of her/his own actions, the actions of the teams s/he leads and the organizations in which s/he participates, to lead a group and take responsibility for it, performing tasks within the framework of American Studies and professional practice.	The student is ready to make decisions independently and to critically evaluate and accept responsibility for the consequences of his own actions, the actions of the teams he leads performing tasks in the field of English at c2 level.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[AMERMU2_W18] Student knows and understands concepts and principles of copyright and property protection applicable to research work in literary and cultural and religious studies in American Studies and in the context of chosen professional activity.	The student knows and understands the concepts and principles of copyright and property protection applicable when preparing written assignments in academic English at the C2 level.	[SW3] text preparation/written work
	[AMERMU2_W19] Student knows and understands grammatical and lexical rules of English, rules for constructing written and oral presentations, and cultural conventions of communication in English at the C2 level.	The student knows and understands the grammatical and lexical structures of English, the structure of written and oral statements (as used in academic English and discussions and speeches) in English at C2 level.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SW3] text preparation/written work
Subject contents	Integrated skills course component The course develops and deepens knowledge of grammatical and lexical units, reading, listening and speaking skills at the advanced C2 level. Work on grammatical and lexical issues focuses on the correct use of various grammatical structures and active and passive knowledge of vocabulary practiced through tasks involving filling in gaps in texts, transformations of sentences using indicated phraseology, tasks in the field of word formation and collocations, and discussing semantic relations between expressions in Polish and English. Texts can come from both advanced level textbooks and authentic language sources. In the case of textbooks, texts are used for an original study of a selected topic. Vocabulary from the topics discussed in class creates lexical collections (e.g. media, communication, advertising, character traits), introduces and practices phrasal verbs, verbal nouns, commonly used synonyms and antonyms, colloquialisms and words belonging to the formal register, as well as idioms and expressions related to the topics discussed. Various reading comprehension skills (so-called reading subskills) are practiced based on texts of varying complexity and length and by performing tasks confirming understanding of their content. Improving listening skills includes listening to authentic or textbook texts. Speaking skills focus on developing monologue and dialogic discourse and (individual statements, elements of discussion, debates, mini, simulations and role-playing, communication games, group presentations). Work on pronunciation focuses on monitoring pronunciation, both at the level of individual sounds and sentence stress, with an emphasis on the comprehensibility of the message. Proposals for thematic areas for oral discussions and work on vocabulary: gender issues in social relations; the death penalty as an ever-present controversy; art in the age of information technology; futurism - life and society of the future, etc. Academic writing component Preparation for writing master's theses. Principles of constructing introductions and conclusions in master's theses. Critical analysis of academic texts, including paragraph organization, the role of the topic sentence, and comparing sources. Developing the ability to synthesize and analyze, as well as the clarity of argumentation. Practicing precision of expression, and the correct use of academic vocabulary and grammatical structures. Working on the coherence of the text, linguistic correctness. Giving and receiving feedback. Proofreading. Discussing fragments of students' own work and texts. The spoken rhetoric component: The course is devoted to the training of communicative competence by introducing the different types of speeches / public speeches and the workshop of speech writers (with special emphasis on the office of the President of the United States). Types of speeches (argumentative, emotional, persuasive, informative); types of rhetoric, such as deliberative and epideictic (ceremonial); means of persuasion: logos, pathos, ethos. Analysis of the speech writer's workshop and the process of creating a speech. Analysis of the audience of a speech and their needs. Formation of skills of contact with the audience/viewers and ways to catch the attention of the audience through the strategy of organizing the speech (e.g., storytelling), as well as the use of technological solutions during speeches. Macrostructure of the speech, i.e. ways to break down the content in a speech - analysis of different strategies. Microstructure of a speech: language and style: clear, inclusive, lively; words, phrases, pauses; voice: intelligible (speaking pace not too fast, not too slow), conversational (speak to the audience), expressive; vocals, pace, pitch, volume; body language: eye contact, facial expression, posture (poise), hands (gestures).		

Prerequisites and co-requisites	Entry requirement: English language proficiency at C1+ level. To proceed to the second semester, the student must complete the entire Practical English module from the first semester with a passing grade. To be admitted to the final exam in the second semester, the student must obtain passing grades for each component of the Practical English module, i.e. the integrated course (reading and listening comprehension tests, vocabulary and language structures tests - use of English, group and individual presentations), written academic language (written assignments) and spoken rhetoric (oral expression/conversation/discussion/debate). The final grade for the examination is calculated as the arithmetic average of the grades obtained for the reading and listening comprehension test, use of English test and speaking test. The Practical English examination does not include the Academic Writing component because students' writing skills are tested through their master theses, which students write in English.																	
Assessment methods and criteria	<table><tr><th>Subject passing criteria</th><th>Passing threshold</th><th>Percentage of the final grade</th></tr><tr><td>IS: listening comprehension exam</td><td>51.0%</td><td>25.0%</td></tr><tr><td>IS: reading comprehension exam</td><td>51.0%</td><td>25.0%</td></tr><tr><td>Rhetoric: speaking exam</td><td>51.0%</td><td>25.0%</td></tr><tr><td>IS: use of English exam</td><td>51.0%</td><td>25.0%</td></tr></table>			Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade	IS: listening comprehension exam	51.0%	25.0%	IS: reading comprehension exam	51.0%	25.0%	Rhetoric: speaking exam	51.0%	25.0%	IS: use of English exam	51.0%	25.0%
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Recommended reading	Basic literature	Written Academic English: - Horkoff, T. (2015). Writing for Success 1st Canadian Edition. BCcampus. https://opentextbc.ca/writingforsuccess/ - Morley, J. (2023). Academic Phrasebank. University of Manchester. - Macpherson, R. (2004). English for Academic Purposes. PWN. - Romig, A, J. (2010). A Guide to Writing a Senior Thesis in History and Literature. Committee on Degrees in History and Literature, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University. - MLA Handbook. 9th ed., MLA, 2021. https://harvardwritingcenterblog.com/ https://writingproject.fas.harvard.edu/ Integrated skills: - McCarthy, Michael, Felicity O'Dell. <i>English Phrasal Verbs in Use Advanced</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge U P 2002. - McCarthy, Michael, Felicity O'Dell. <i>English Collocations in Use Advanced</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2009. - McCarthy, Michael, Felicity O'Dell. <i>English Vocabulary in Use Advanced</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge U P 2002. - Rottenberg, Annette and Donna Haisty Winchell. (2009) <i>The Structure of Argument</i>. Boston, New York: Bedford/St. Martin's. - Swan, M. <i>Practical English Usage</i>. OUP. - Wellman, Guy. 1998. <i>The Heinemann ELT English Wordbuilder</i>. Macmillan Publishers. - Authentic video/audio materials; Press and academic articles from various sources. Internet resources related to the topics of the classes and the lexical area being introduced. Rhetoric: - Swiatczak-Wasilewska, Iwona. 2020. The Failure of Legislative Leadership: A Retrospective Study of Crafting the State of the Unions in the George H. W. Bush White House. "Res Rhetorica" 7 (2). https://doi.org/10.29107/rr2020.2.6. - Sellnow, Deanna D. <i>Confident Public Speaking</i>, Cengage Learning, 2004. - Kelly, Win Breaking the Barriers in Public Speaking, Dubuque, Iowa, Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company. Selections. - Murray, David and Fletcher Dean. 2011. 10 Steps to Writing a Vital Speech: The Definitive Guide to Professional Speechwriting. Createspace Independent Publishing Platform. - Tarver, Jerry. 1987. <i>The Corporate Speech Writer's Handbook: A Guide for Professionals in Business, Agencies and the Public Sector</i>. Quorum Books. Selections. - Presidential speechwriting : from the New Deal to the Reagan revolution and beyond, ed., Kurt Ritter and Martin J. Medhurst. Selections. C. Humes, James. <i>Confessions of a White House Ghostwriter</i>. Selections. - Kathleen Jamieson and Karlyn Campbell, <i>Deeds Done in Words: Presidential Rhetoric and the Genre of Governance</i>, (especially Introduction, Chapter 2 (Inaugural Address), Chapter 4 (State of the Union), Chapter 10 (Farewell Address)). - Internet resources and others.
	Supplementary literature	n/a
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Sample topics for discussions and work on lexis: Art in the age of information technology. Futurism - life and society of the future. Media and communication - the foundations of the information society. Travel and leisure. Language and literature - their place in the age of mediatization. Genetic engineering. Paraphrasing and citation of scientific texts. Creating different types of speeches: argumentative, emotional, persuasive, informative, etc.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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