Course purpose and overview:

The main objective of the M2 course is to improve students’ proficiency in English for communication in academic and/or professional settings. The primary focus is on enhancing writing skills. To this end, a variety of rhetorical and linguistic skills are taught and practiced throughout the course. Speaking and listening are integrated into the class sessions and assignments, and all students prepare and deliver a professional/academic oral presentation. Communication in such genres as essays, summaries, email correspondence, PowerPoints, and research reports are studied and practiced.

Teaching techniques, technology use, guest speakers:

- Frontal lectures
- Pair/group work
- Individual tutorials
- Class discussions
- Moodle assignments (e.g. forums, videos)
- Internet use: videos, supplementary material (in class/homework)

Writing and language components

Below is a list of the writing and language skills taught and practiced in the course.

- Writing for an audience
- Writing a thesis statement
- Paragraph writing (structure and development)
- Cohesion (transitions and rhetorical markers)
- Essay writing
- Summarizing
- Paraphrasing
- Writing from sources (citation, quoting, plagiarism)
- Abstracts and empirical research articles
- Academic language and register (e.g. hedging, formality)
- Relevant grammatical and mechanical issues
- Preparing academic/professional presentations (structure, presentation skills, PPT preparation)
Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

✓ Write in English for a variety of academic and professional purposes (e.g. exposition, argument, summary) in their own fields
✓ Develop effective academic rhetorical skills and demonstrate awareness of basic stylistic conventions
✓ Identify and correct linguistic problems in their writing
✓ Enhance oral proficiency by participating in class discussions and activities
✓ Prepare and deliver a professional/academic oral presentation

Course requirements:

✓ Attendance and active participation in class sessions
✓ Successful completion of class assignments and homework
✓ Oral presentation

Components of the class grade:

The final course grade is pass/fail, with all coursework earning a minimum of 75 to merit a passing grade. The grade is based on a series of assignments completed throughout the semester as follows:

✓ Three writing assignments (70%): Assignments may be of various types and may include a paragraph on an academic topic, a research essay, a summary, or a part of a research paper.
✓ Oral Presentation (20%)
✓ Classwork / Homework (10%):

Bibliography:

Authentic academic articles compiled by each lecturer in a course booklet posted on the Moodle System

Articles chosen by individual students based on their individual needs