

## General Information

<b>Course name</b>	Language Skills - Vocabulary Development	<b>ECTS Credits</b>	<b>3</b>
		<b>Semester</b>	<b>summer</b>

## Aims

To develop and improve English vocabulary in the classroom with intermediate to upper-intermediate/advanced level students and to increase their language competences with a special focus on some aspects of vocabulary learning. The course aims to help to learn new words and word combinations, functioning as meaningful units with a fixed or semi-fixed form (collocations, phrasal verbs, idioms), and to show that the words can play different roles in a text, and can express a variety of meanings. Contextually based learning is of great importance, and various sources are suggested.

## Contents

The course introduces various interesting aspects of English vocabulary learning. It revises useful points of English vocabulary (word classes/families, multi-word units, homonyms, synonyms and antonyms, etc.), familiarizes students with the ways new words are coined, learned, and presented.

- WEEK1: Introduction to the course; General Knowledge Quiz
- WEEK2: Talking about Yourself (English Vocabulary in Use, 13) Character and Behaviour (English Collocations in Use, 17) Topic Vocabulary: People
- WEEK3: Relationships: Positive Aspects AND Problems (English Vocabulary in Use, 15-16) Taboo Conversation Topics: Questions you can't ask? Topic Vocabulary: Relationships
- WEEK4: Education: debates and issues (English Vocabulary in Use, 12) Politically Incorrect Jokes: Is it OK to joke about disabled people, religion, death? Freedom of the Press? Topic Vocabulary: Thinking and Learning 1
- WEEK5: World Views: Ways of Thinking (English Vocabulary in Use, 41) National Stereotypes: "They are lazy and dishonest" Blind prejudice, or is there some truth in stereotypes? Topic Vocabulary: Thinking and Learning 2
- WEEK6: Credit Test
- WEEK7: Tutorials
- WEEK8: The News: Gathering and Delivering AND Newspaper Headline Language (English Vocabulary in Use, 54, 100) Is This News?: What is the News for? To provide facts or to shock and entertain? Topic Vocabulary: Communication and the Media
- WEEK9: Authorities: Customs and Police (English Vocabulary in Use, 40) Immigration and Racism: How do You feel about people from other countries coming to live in yours? Rules Quiz? Topic Vocabulary: Power and Social Issues
- WEEK10: Other Englishes: Language of Gender, Age and Social Class (English Vocabulary in Use, 98-99) Swearing: Is it OK to swear? What swear words do/could YOU use? Are you a Woman or a Man Quiz Topic Vocabulary: Power and Social Issues
- WEEK11: National Stereotypes; Idiom Quiz
- WEEK 12: Credit Test 2
- WEEK 13: Tutorials
- WEEK 14: Tutorials
- Detailed information for each Week can be found on <http://kosice.upjs.sk/~ffweb>

## Evaluation

Continuous assessment: Students will be graded on active attendance and involvement, and two credit tests (in week 6 and week 12). Attendance - students are expected to attend each class according to the schedule. No transfers among the groups are allowed. In case the students miss three or more classes, they will not receive credits for the course no matter what the overall results are.

Active participation, completed homework assignments - students are required to do their best with respect to active participation in seminar sessions. Being enrolled in the course means that you intend positively take and finish the course. Students are expected to make their own copies of the required materials and complete the assigned tasks and exercises. Should you fail to bring your own copy or a completed home assignment for a particular seminar, your presence in class will not count.

Credit tests - two credit tests (65% pass level) will take place in week 6 and week 12. There will be NO retake test for the students who failed one or more credit tests. The final grade will comprise the sum of gained points of both or more tests and the total sum must make minimum 70%. The credit tests will include vocabulary and exercises similar to those done during the seminar sessions and home preparation.

Final assessment: Final grade will be calculated as a sum of active participation 20% (completed homework assignments, etc.) and credit tests 80%. The final grade for the course will be based on the following grading scale: A 93-100% B 86-92% C 78-85% D 72-77% E 65-71% F X 64 and less

## Bibliography

Michael McCarthy, Felicity O Dell (2002): English Vocabulary in Use. Advanced. CUP  
Evans, Virginia (1995, 2004): Round up 6. (upper-intermediate). Longman.  
Michael McCarthy, Felicity O Dell (2000): English Collocations in Use. CUP

Materials given by the lecturer can be found on : <http://kosice.upjs.sk/~ffweb/>

Useful links:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/newsenglish/witn/2006/html>

[www.bbclearningenglish.com](http://www.bbclearningenglish.com)

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/radio/specials/1728\\_uptodate](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/radio/specials/1728_uptodate)