

***ENGLISH LANGUAGE &
COMMUNICATION SKILLS
2023-2024
LINGUE E COMUNICAZIONE***

*Faculty of Humanities
University of Cagliari*

Michela Giordano

A word cloud containing various terms related to language and communication. The words are arranged in a roughly rectangular shape, with some words being larger and more prominent than others. The colors of the words range from dark red to yellow. The words include: moderate, repetition, dystopia, radical, slogan, politician, soundbite, right, elections, government, hawk, politics, party, speech, metonymy, left, ideology, spin, metaphor, language, parody, and alliteration.

Associate Professor (English Language and Translation)- CLA Vice-head

Dept. of Humanities, Languages and Heritage

Faculty of Humanities

e-mail: mgiordano@unica.it

Google: michela giordano unica

Office hours: online, by appointment (on Teams); studio 25 in Campus Aresu; studio at Cla in Via Porcell n.2

LESSON TIMETABLE

MONDAY 8:30-10:00 Aula Magna

TUESDAY 13:10-14:45 Aula 2

30 hours of lessons (8 weeks)

Collect signatures
easystaff.it

OVERALL OBJECTIVES

- The course takes into consideration the social function of the English language and it also considers it to be an international method of academic communication in a historical, judicial, economic and sociological context.
- It therefore, aims at deepening the knowledge of and consolidating the four fundamental linguistic skills, concerning both comprehension (LISTENING and READING) and production (SPEAKING and WRITING), with particular attention given to the comprehension of specific texts.

PREREQUISITES

- Students who wish to attend these classes should have a working knowledge of the English language at the intermediate level (at least **Level B2** of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages).
- Students are required to attend **lab lessons with the CEL**, Collaboratore ed Esperto Linguistico, which complement the official 30 hour-course during the 1st semester.

AIMS AND CONTENTS

- The course is divided into two teaching modules:
 - 1) General English: aimed at deepening the phonological, morphological, grammatical and syntactic aspects of the English language, expanding vocabulary and enhancing students' communication skills (Level B2/C1);
 - 2) Specific English: aimed at analyzing specialized texts relating to the lexical, syntactic, textual, discursive and rhetorical features of the language of politics and institutions in the UK and the USA (English-speaking countries) (Level B2/C1).

The level of knowledge and competence required at the end of the course is Level B2/C1 Upper Intermediate-Advanced, according to the Common European Framework.

Level B2 Intermediate

Common European Framework

B2

- Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation.
- Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party.
- Can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.

What can you do with a C1 level in English?

- A C1 level of English allows for a full range of functionality at work or in an academic setting. The C1 level would allow for full autonomy in a native English-speaking country.

According to the official CEFR guidelines, someone at the C1 level in English:

- Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognize implicit meaning.
- Can express ideas fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions.
- Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes.
- Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organizational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.

TEXTBOOKS (1)

General English Module:

C. Oxenden and C. Latham
Koenig, New English File
Advanced FOURTH EDITION –
Student's Book with online
materials + Workbook, Oxford

Tuesday and Wednesday –
both 11.40-13.10 (Tuesday in
aula 11 and Wednesday in Lab
A) with **John di Girolamo**



Starting 9 October
2023!

TEXTBOOKS (2)

Specific English Module

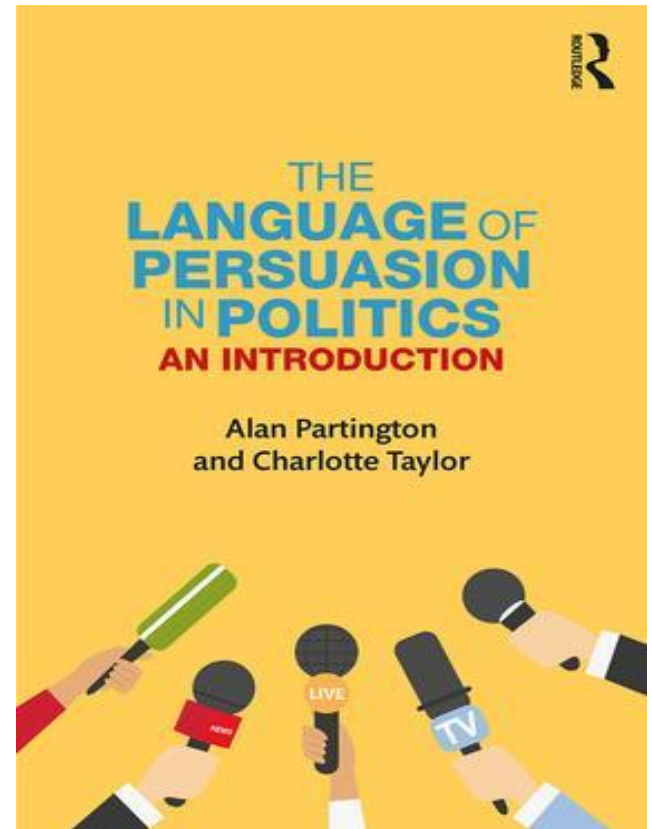
A. Beard,
*The Language
of Politics*,
Units 1 -4.



TEXTBOOKS (3)

Specific English Module

A. Partington &
C. Taylor,
*The Language
of Persuasion
in Politics*



EXAM

- **1) Written test** reading comprehension, grammar and use of English (multiple choice), written production, listening (Level B2+/C1 CEFR)
- **2) Oral exam:** listening comprehension and speaking production; communicative competence.

ORAL EXAM Topics

Specific English:

- A. Beard, *The Language of Politics*, Units 1, 2, 3, 4.
- B. Partington & Taylor, *The Language of Persuasion in Politics* (selected parts)
- C. Slides and additional materials
- D. Final linguistic analysis of a political speech or debate (presentation in ppt)

During the semester:

- A. hand in the Utopia/Dystopia outline
- B. hand in answers to questions on the language of politics

CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT

Your presentation

- **Analysis of a political speech** of your choice (individual task and original work!) (NO PLAGIARISM)
- The language of the speech must be **English** in the original version
- **Linguistic (qualitative and quantitative) and rhetorical analysis** according to the model provided in class
- **Book** your presentation: last days of classes (for attending students)
- On ppt, 18-20 slides, 10-12 minutes of talking
- The presentation in class **is already (part of) your oral exam.**

Corpora for quantitative analysis

- WORDSMITH TOOLS:
- [WordSmith Tools home page \(lexically.net\)](#)
- ANTCONC:
[Laurence Anthony's AntConc](#)

WordSmith Tools

Purchase

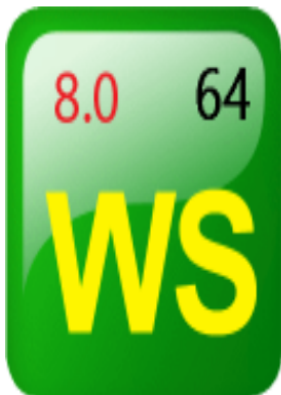
Support

Research

Downloads

Windows software for finding word patterns

Published by [Lexical Analysis Software](#) and [Oxford University Press](#) since 1996



[Concord](#)

... for finding all instances of a word or phrase. [Video](#)

[KeyWords](#)

... helps find salient words in a text or set of texts. [Video](#)

[WordList](#)

Laurence Anthony's Website

- Home
- Resume
- Publications ▾
- Software ▾
- Classes
- Photo Albums ▾
- Links
- Contact

AntConc Homepage

Latest Release



AntConc

A freeware corpus analysis toolkit for concordancing and text analysis.

[\[AntConc Homepage\]](#) [\[Screenshots\]](#) [\[Help\]](#) [\[License\]](#)

Downloads:

Official releases

- [Windows \(Installer\) \(4.2.4\) \[Recommended\]](#)
- [Windows \(Portable\) \(4.2.4\)](#)
- [MacOS 10/11-Intel \(4.2.4\)](#)
[Catalina or newer]
- [MacOS 10/11-Silicon \(4.2.4\)](#)
[BigSur or newer]
- [Linux \(Portable\) \(4.2.4\)](#)

AntConc 3x series

- [Windows \(3.5.9\)](#)
- [MacOS 10 \(3.5.9\)](#)



What can I find on the website?



michela giordano unica

For any other query,
please contact me:

mgiordano@unica.it

