

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE &  
COMMUNICATION SKILLS**  
**2025-2026**  
**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 and include: moderate, repetition, dystopia, radical, slogan, politician, soundbite, right, elections, government, hawk, politics, party, speech, metonymy, left, ideology, metaphor, spin, language, parody, and alliteration.

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# LESSON TIMETABLE

TUESDAY 13:10-14:45 Aula 7

WEDNESDAY 13:10-14:45 Aula 7

30 hours of lessons (8 weeks)

Collect signatures

[easystaff.it](http://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. **John di Girolamo** ([unica.it](http://unica.it) – [Docente](#))

# 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 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 2020 (Companion Volume)

# Level B2 Intermediate

## Common European Framework

### B2

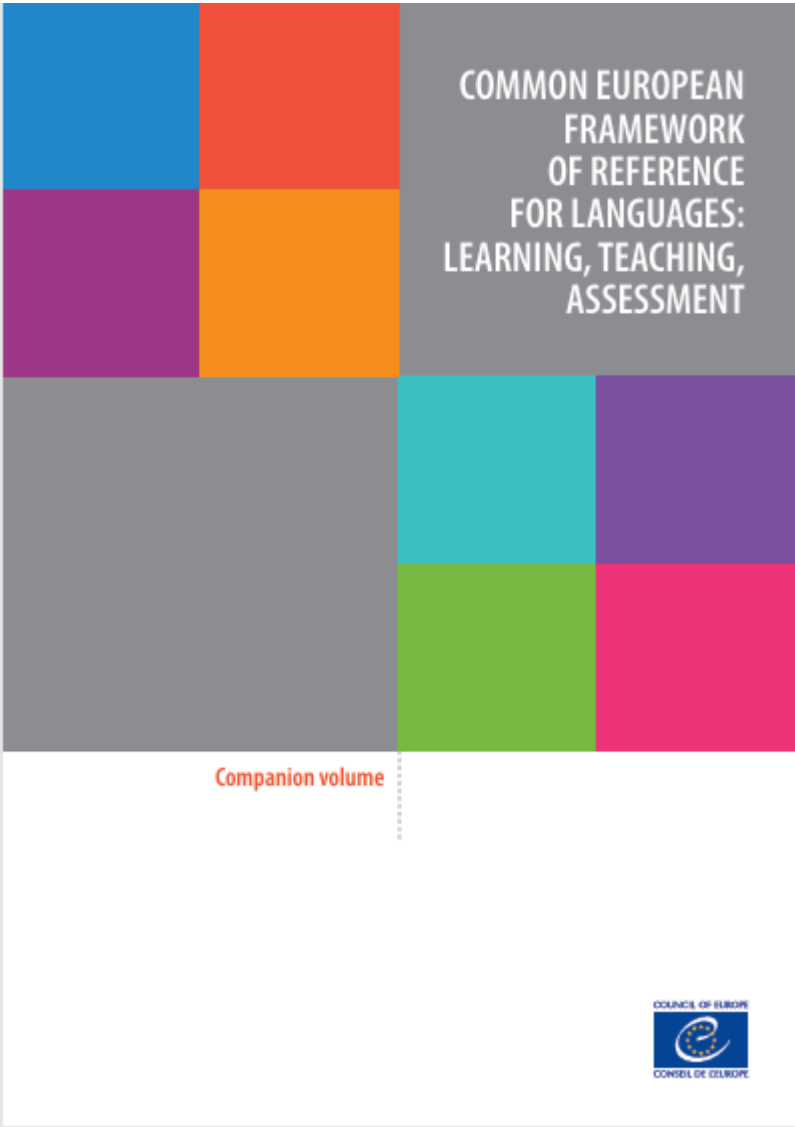
- Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation.
- Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either 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, Room 11/lab A1,  
with **John di Girolamo**

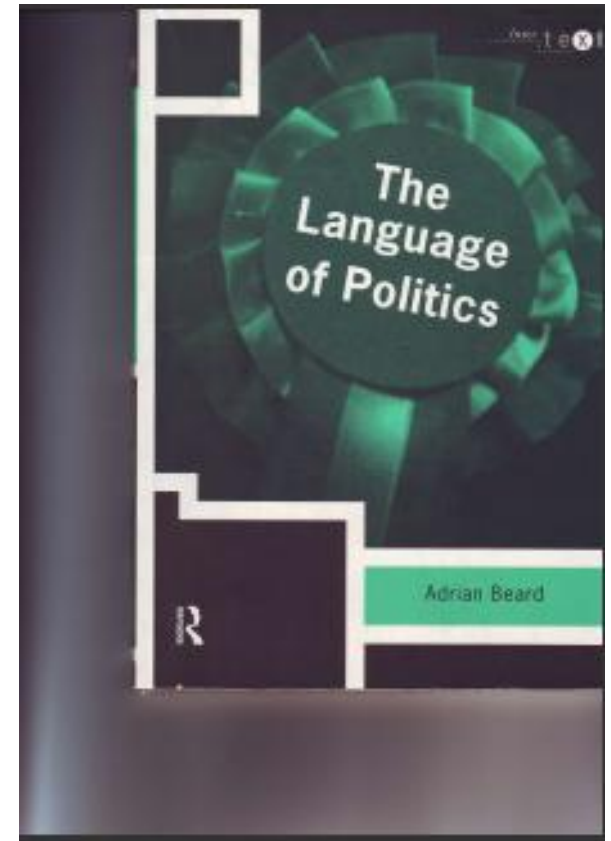


Starting Tuesday 7th  
October

# TEXTBOOKS (2)

## Specific English Module

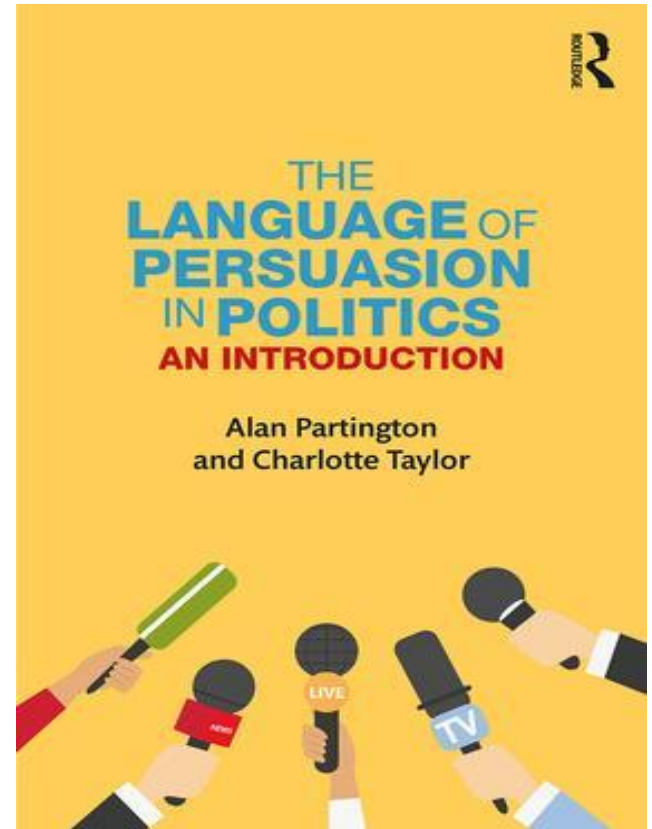
A. Beard,  
*The Language  
of Politics*,  
Units 1 -4.



# TEXTBOOKS (3)

## Specific English Module

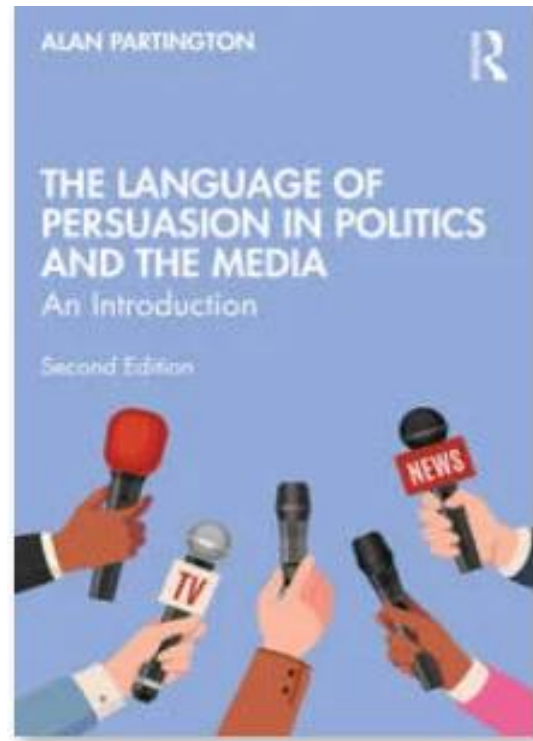
A. Partington &  
C. Taylor,  
*The Language  
of Persuasion  
in Politics*



# TEXTBOOKS (4)

## Specific English Module

A. Partington,  
*The Language  
of Persuasion  
in Politics and the  
Media, 2025*



# 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; specific English.

# 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. Partington, *The Language of Persuasion in Politics and the Media* (selected parts)
- D. Slides and additional materials
- E. Final linguistic analysis of a political speech or debate (presentation in ppt)

During the semester:

- A. hand in the Utopia/Dystopia outline/homework
- 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 \(lexically.net\)](http://lexically.net)

- ANTCONC:

[Laurence Anthony's AntConc](http://laurenceanthony.com/antconc/)

- Count Word Count:

<https://www.countwordcount.com/>

# WordSmith Tools

Purchase

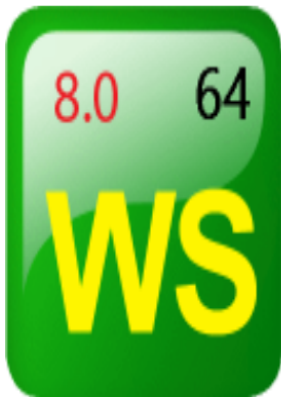
Support

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 \(3.5.9\)](#)



# Free **Word Counter** & Text Analysis

Count words, characters, sentences, and paragraphs instantly. Analyze keyword density and optimize your content for better readability.

## Text Statistics



## Content Guidelines

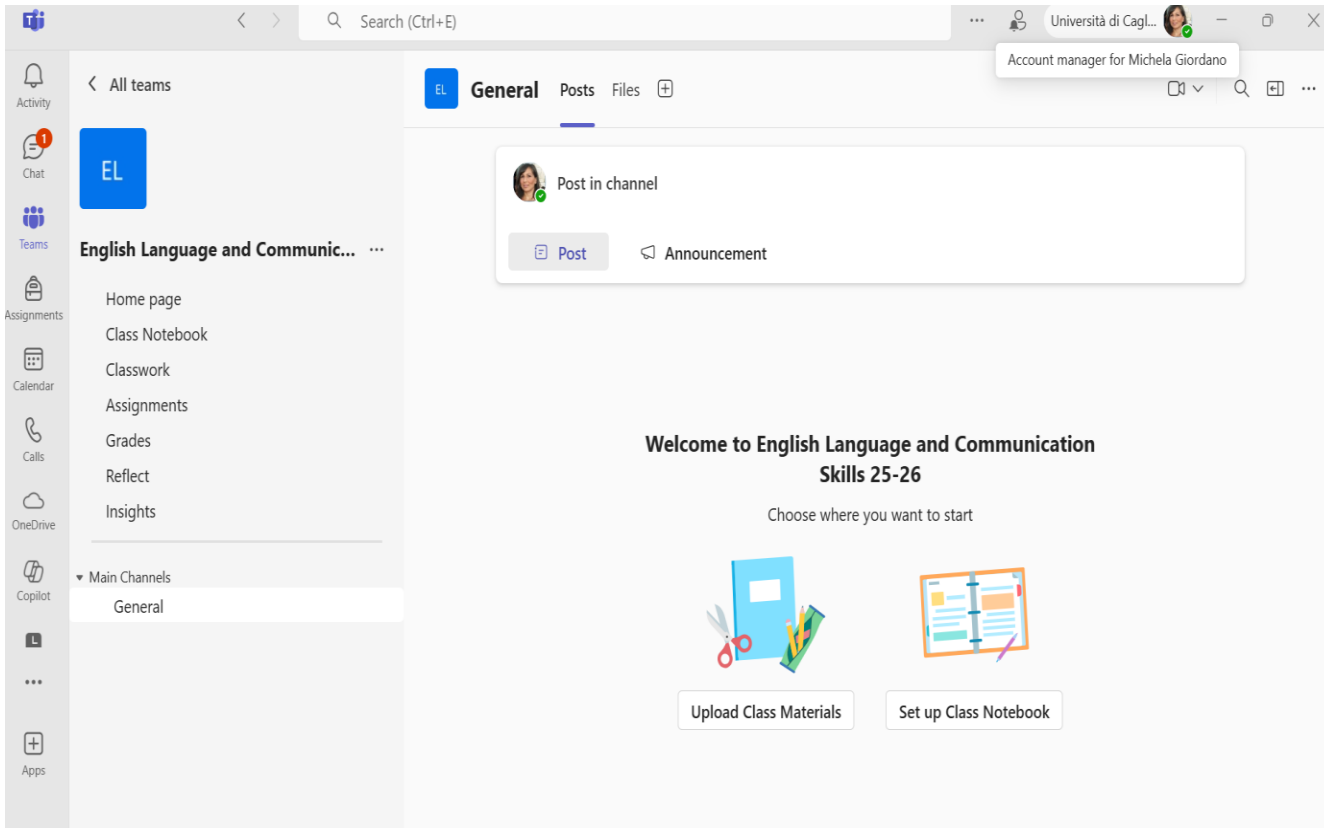
Blog Post 300-2000 words

Article 500-3000 words

Essay 1000-5000 words

Social Media 50-280 chars

Meta Description 150-160 chars



Send me a request to be added to the Teams group:  
<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/channel/19%3A6JtnVuSpT35Fok3GBDI8UuwYiDFwK0WEcBQOdITIA5I1%40thread.tacv2/General?groupId=f4db5fa2-9243-4f61-b169-b74bb4c7147c&tenantId=6bfa74cc-fe34-4d57-97d3-97fd6e0edee1>

# What can I find on the website?



michela giordano unica



## Michela Giordano

Q Filtra risultati

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Data: 08 ottobre 2023



### LINGUA INGLESE I (corsi vecchi AO e SP prima del 2019-2020)

Curriculum

Insegnamenti

Materiale didattico

Altre Attività

For any other query,  
please contact me:

[mgiordano@unica.it](mailto:mgiordano@unica.it)

