

LINGUA INGLESE CORSI MAGISTRALI

**LM-52, LM63, LM87-88
2020-2021**

LESSON 1

Dr Denise Filmer
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OFFICE HOURS

- **Office hours are on Thursday following the lesson:**
- **13.45-15.45 on Teams in our classroom.**

Via Santa Maria, 67 Anglistica 1° floor, «in presenza» by appointment

LETTORATO

- **Dottoressa Elizabeth MacDonald**
- **Begins on 23rd February**
- **Tuesday 17.30-19.00**
- **Thursday 14.00-15.30**
- **Friday 15.45-17.15**

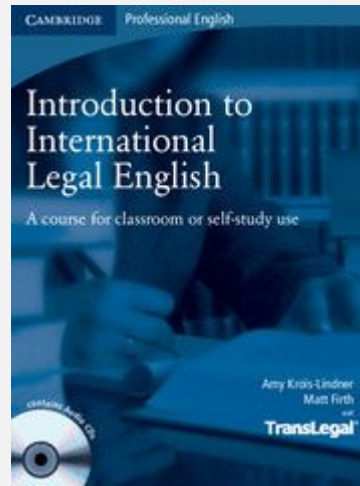
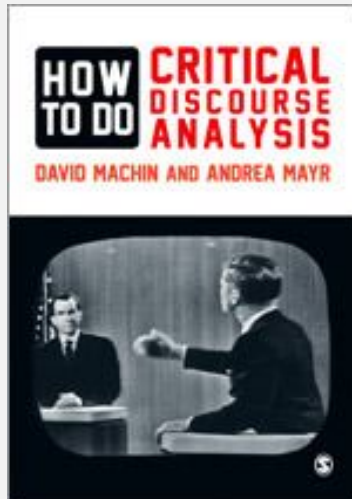
COURSE OVERVIEW: AIMS

- B2+ level of English according to the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) in the four language skills: speaking, writing, listening and reading.
- Recognise, understand and use key terminology and concepts found in specialised discourse on legal, economic, social and cultural themes extracted from audiovisual and **news texts**.
- Understand how language creates meaning and become a **critical reader** of news products.
- Developing summary skills, i.e. the ability to reformulate and summarise the main points of a specialised text (written or audiovisual) using appropriate lexico-grammar.

COURSE OVERVIEW: METHODS

- Introductory theoretical lessons on Anglophone **news brands** and **multimodal critical discourse analysis** (Text book: How to Do Multimodal Critical Discourse Analysis Machin & Mayr (2012 Sage) chapters 1,3,4,7,8.
- Authentic materials from sources such as ***The Economist***, ***The Times***, ***The Guardian***, etc plus video clips from news broadcasts and TV serials will be analysed focusing on specialised lexis in context and collocations. These will be supplemented with selected chapters and articles from *Introduction to International Legal English* (2008 Cambridge University Press) chapters 3,4,8,9,10
- You will be encouraged through **class discussions** to view the texts not only from a linguistic perspective but also to consider their cultural and ideological stances. In general, the classroom approach is **open seminar** rather than “frontale”.

THE TEXTS



- How to Do Multimodal Critical Discourse Analysis Machin & Mayr (2012 Sage) chapters 1,3,4,7,8.
- Introduction to International Legal English (2008 Cambridge University Press) chapters 3,4,8,9,10

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA OF KNOWLEDGE

- You will be tested to ascertain that you have achieved a **B2+ level** of the CEFR in general English in terms of reception and production. You will need to **pass a written exam** consisting in **reading comprehension and grammar** before sitting the oral exam.
- You must also be able to **recognize** and **employ** the main **lexical and grammatical features** of the various texts analysed in class, and to be able to engage with their content. This will be verified and discussed during the oral exam.
- **Your course work will be part of your assessment!** You will prepare a presentation on a news text in pairs or small groups.

TOPIC AREAS

- **Topic 1 The language of the news**
- **Topic 2 Critical discourse analysis – a toolbox for understanding texts**

The following are general topics to be discussed through news texts

- **Topic 3 Brexit, the world economy and globalization.**
- **Topic 4 The United Nations, human rights, and the language of NGOs**
- **Topic 5 Naming the Other in news discourse: migrants, immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees.**
- **Topic 6 A question of citizenship: documents, ID cards and permits**
- **Topic 7 International Law and Comparative Law**
- **Topic 8 British legal system**
- **Topic 9 Fake news**
- **Topic 10 Covid across nations and cultures: representations in the press**
- **Topic 11 Social and health services**

WHAT **YOU** WILL HAVE TO DO

- **Contribute your ideas and observations during the lessons**
- **Work in small groups**
- **Produce a written critique of a news article**
- **In small groups give a presentation on a news article on three levels:**
 - **1. The use of language**
 - **2. The content**
 - **3. Your attitude to the subject**



WHAT ARE OUR TEXTS?



ENTRY TEST AND NEEDS ANALYSIS

<https://elearning.sp.unipi.it/course/view.php?id=548>

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