Communicative Approach and Task-Based Learning

Máster en Formación del Profesorado
SYLLABUS

Subject: Communicative Approach and Task-Based Learning
Degree: Máster Universitario en Formación del Profesorado de Enseñanza Secundaria Obligatoria y Bachillerato, Formación Profesional y Enseñanza de Idiomas.
Type: Mandatory (English)
Language: English
Modality: Blended
Credits: 4
Term: 1st
Professor: D. Rubén D. Alves López

1. COMPETENCIES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

1.1. Competencies

General competencies
CG1 Understand the content of curricula in the corresponding teaching area, and be familiar with relevant teaching and learning processes
CG2 Plan, develop and assess the teaching/learning process by means of fostering the educational processes that facilitate the acquisition of the proper competencies of the corresponding teaching area, focusing on the level and former student’s training as well as orientating them, both individually as in collaboration with other teachers and professionals of the center.
CG3 Search, obtain and communicate information (oral, printed, audiovisual, digital or multimedia), transform it into knowledge and apply it in the teaching/learning processes of the proper course of study within the undertaken area.
CG4 Set the curriculum that is going to be implemented in the center taking part in its collective planning; develop and apply didactic methodologies both in groups and personalized, adapted to the students’ diversity.
CG5 Design and develop of learning environments focusing on fairness, emotional education and values, same gender rights and opportunities, respect human rights that facilitate life in society, decision making and the construction of a sustainable future.
CG12. Foster a critical, reflective and entrepreneurship approach.
CG13. Foster and promote greater respect for Human Rights and the principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, equity, non-discrimination, democratic values and peace culture.

Specific competencies
CE46 Know the educational and cultural value of the subjects and the contents corresponding to the field of study.
CE47 Know the way the courses have been conducted and their perspectives in order to be able to convey a dynamic image of them.
CE48 Know the contexts and situations within the different curricular contents are applied.
CE49 In Vocational Training, know the evolution of the labor world, interaction among society, work and quality of life, as well as the need of acquiring the proper training when adapting to changes and transformations required by their professions.

1.2. Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this subject the student will be able to:

Understand that a language is acquired while developing a real communicative competence
Learn to organize the teaching procedures in communicative activities.
Understand the new roles of an approach based in the student.
Design new programs of teaching based in tasks.
Use an authentic and contextualized language that creates real process of communication.
Develop the necessary skills to address the attention of the students when manipulating the information (meaning) and not the form (linguistic contents).

2. CONTENTS

2.1. Previous requirements
Demonstrate sufficient performance at level B2 in English.

2.2. Brief description of contents
This course presents an introduction to the communicative approach and task-based learning used nowadays in many teaching practices, academic curricula, individual methodologies and teaching/learning textbooks. Currently, the concept of communication has found its place not only when teaching foreign languages but also when learning the mother tongue. So, ‘communication’ is a concept that cannot be separated from the concept of ‘language’. Furthermore, what does ‘communication’ stand for? How did we get to the current situation? Both questions could have an answer or, at least, could make us to think about in this course. A brief review of the history of the foreign languages methodology and the evolution of the foreign languages teaching since its origins will be provided.
In this course, we will discuss about what we do in our classrooms in order to check if we can consider ourselves ‘communicative’.

2.3. Learning activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEACHING ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
<th>PRESENTIAL %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AF1. Teaching sessions</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AF2. Learning activities, individual and in groups outside the classroom sessions</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AF3 Tutorials</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AF4. Additional training activities</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AF7. Evaluation activities</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HOURS</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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2.4. Teaching methodology

The teaching methodology combines online teaching and autonomous work which rely on the use of Blackboard to support collaborative work (forums, chat, videoconference meeting) the guidance of the Professor (calendar, bulletin board, folder, links) and the delivery of jobs (tasks and tool box to work).

The program combines various elements to develop methodological reflection on Language Teaching and Learning. This is specified in an interactive methodology that requires the participation of students and teacher in the discussion of issues. Class participation is a key aspect of this course which is based on a communicative approach. Participation means being able to ask questions, answer questions when called upon, volunteering to answer to questions and actively listening to others.

Previous reading of the texts proposed for discussion and further consideration will allow students to seek information through the resources available and be able to judge it critically for use in further learning and research processes.

3. EVALUATION

3.1. Evaluation

The system of final grades will be stated as it follows:

- 0 - 4,9 Suspenso (SS)
- 5,0 - 6,9 Aprobado (AP)
- 7,0 - 8,9 Notable (NT)
- 9,0 - 10 Sobresaliente (SB)

3.2. Evaluation criteria

Assessment tools:

1. Attendance and participation in working groups and discussion.
2. Group and individual activities.

Evaluation Criteria:

- Ability for teamwork and problem solving.
- Ability to search information through various sources and resources, to judge it critically and use it appropriately for teaching or research purposes.
- Ability to relate the content to teaching practice and other areas of knowledge.
- Active participation in class discussions.
- Ability to argue, defend with relevant data and contrast topics proposed.

Ordinary evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading System</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam / Project</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online and in-campus lectures participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory Tasks</td>
<td>25%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Repeat Evaluation

<table>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please note that your final mark is the result of the average of your marks providing you have completed compulsory assignments and exam.

Students are expected to have all lessons and set tasks prepared on the dates indicated. Late work will not be accepted and will not receive a mark.

3.3. Restrictiones

Minimum grade
It is necessary to obtain a pass (5) in the final exam (either in the regular or repeat evaluation). Any grade under 5 is considered a fail.

Attendance
The student who does not attend more than 20% of the online sessions without justification can be deprived from the right to sit the ordinary exam.

Writing rules
Special attention will be given to papers, tasks and projects. It is essential to prepare a good final project in terms of grammar and spelling. Minimum standards must be accomplished in order to be evaluated.

3.4. Academic integrity and plagiarism.
Antonio de Nebrija University will not tolerate in any case plagiarism. When writing a research paper or an essay exam you must identify your intellectual indebtedness to the authors you have read. This can be done through footnotes, bibliography, or by making a direct reference to the scholar or author in question. Failure to do so will be considered plagiarism. Plagiarism is the most serious academic offence you can incur in and could have serious consequences for you (Falta Grave) and it could be applied the sanction provided in the Reglamento del Alumno.

4. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Basic Bibliography

Recommended Bibliography

5. **LECTURER’S BRIEF CV**

Rubén D. Alves López: ralves@nebrija.es