



## COURSE PRESENTATION FORM – ACADEMIC YEAR 2010/2011

<b>COURSE NAME</b>	<b>Technical and Scientific Communication</b>
<b>COURSE CODE</b>	72004 (MSc 270) / 70109 (MSc 509)
<b>LECTURER</b>	<a href="#">Cinzia Colapinto</a>
<b>TEACHING ASSISTANTS</b>	--
<b>TEACHING LANGUAGE</b>	English
<b>CREDIT POINTS</b>	4
<b>LECTURE HOURS</b>	36
<b>EXERCISE HOURS</b>	--
<b>TIME SPAN</b>	27.09.2010 - 21.01.2011
<b>TIME TABLE</b>	See <a href="#">Timetable Page</a>
<b>OFFICE HOURS LECTURER</b>	During the lecture time, Wednesday 16:00-18:00 and Thursday 10:30-12:30, <a href="#">Faculty of CS, POS Building, piazza Domenicani 3</a> , office 2.10
<b>OFFICE HOURS TEACHING ASSISTANT</b>	--
<b>PREREQUISITES</b>	A pass level or higher in first year English.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	For IT people knowledge transfer is crucial: as a result attending this specifically designed course will extend students' language competence and skills, with a focus on written & spoken production. In particular, the course reduces anxiety toward public speaking.
<b>SYLLABUS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Technology/Knowledge transfer;</li><li>• Use of reading texts and videos from the world of computing;</li><li>• Gain skills for giving opinions &amp; developing logical argument;</li><li>• Extension of soft skills – team work, problem solving, critical thinking, scientific writing;</li><li>• Techniques for the organization and delivery of results for oral, written and poster presentations;</li><li>• Vocabulary acquisition.</li></ul>
<b>TEACHING FORMAT</b>	Frontal lectures, projects in groups, cognitive exercises. Each of the three main methods of scientific communication (writing, speaking, and preparing a poster) will involve the students discussing each other's work.



## ASSESSMENT

- Written examination (short piece) on a topic chosen from the field of computer science, pointing out structure and usage - 50%  
+
- Exercises and class projects - 20 %  
+
- Oral presentation & questions (10-15 minutes) – 30%

**NB. Students must successfully complete the written component prior to attempting the oral presentation.**

## READING LIST

Optional readings:

- L. Leydesdorff & H. Etzkowitz, **The Triple Helix as a Model for Innovation Studies**, Science & Public Policy, Vol. 25(3), 1998, 195-203 available at: <http://www.leydesdorff.net/th2/spp.htm>
- F. Sofo, **Open Your Mind**, Allen & Unwin, 2004.
- S. William, E.B. White, **The elements of style**, 4th ed., 10th printing, Boston, Allyn and Bacon, 2004
- Tufte E.R., **The Visual Display of Quantitative Information**. Graphics Press, Cheshire, CT1983.
- B. Greetham, **How to write better essays**, 2nd ed., Palgrave Macmillan, 2008
- M. Davis, **Scientific papers and presentations**, San Diego, Acad. Press, 200
- <http://www.writing.engr.psu.edu/>
- <http://www.io.com/~hcexres/textbook/acctoc.html#examples>

All other material is produced in house.

## SOFTWARE USED

None.

## LEARNING OUTCOME

This course will develop your use of several genres of scientific and technical writing, as well as teach you planning, drafting, and revision strategies that will improve the quality of your communication.

The major aim of the lecture series is for students to be able to write and speak clearly and concisely for academic or professional purposes at an advanced level i.e. thesis, project proposals, reports, recommendations, journal articles, conference presentations.

## COURSE PAGE

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