

TEACHING PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH AT A MODERN UNIVERSITY: PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE GLOBAL LABOR MARKET

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The main concern for modern universities is to provide their graduates with a wide variety of skills required for the international job market, including excellent language skills. Motivating European citizens to learn two foreign languages is supposed to be the basis of the EU's multilingualism strategy. In this context, English language learning in a higher education institution is becoming an indispensable component of multidisciplinary education. A multidisciplinary study program is characterized by the integration of various areas; in the framework of such a program, different educational formats of learning both languages and professional subjects can be incorporated. In contemporary universities, the English language needs to be a competent language when it comes to teaching Management, Economics, Architecture, Human Rights, Information Technologies and many other specialized subjects. In a multidisciplinary program, each Professional English language course must meet the requirements of people who are going to use English as an international language in order to communicate efficiently in their particular area of expertise, and for whom using English at work would be essential to their career development. This paper addresses some of the major issues related to teaching different Professional English courses at a modern university. The aim of this paper is to discuss a few innovative learning techniques to be utilized within the framework of a multidisciplinary educational program for increasing the graduates' proficiency in professional communication. In the paper, it is argued that educators need to see English skills built into the regular study program, not just a separate language course, and the emphasis should be put on applying English in real-life situations and in specialized fields. The authors also examine some factors that should be taken into consideration when developing a Professional English language course.