CLASS NOTES TO UNIT: INTRODUCTION TO ACADEMIC ENGLISH (Video lesson + Class + Portfolio assignments)

In this unit we are going to:
-Introduce the basics of Academic English (1).
-Clarify the most frequent academic and professional terms used on campus (2).
-See Academic English in real contexts (3 & 4).
-Use Academic English to explain our personal circumstance (5).
-Make our own preliminary search on Academic English (6).

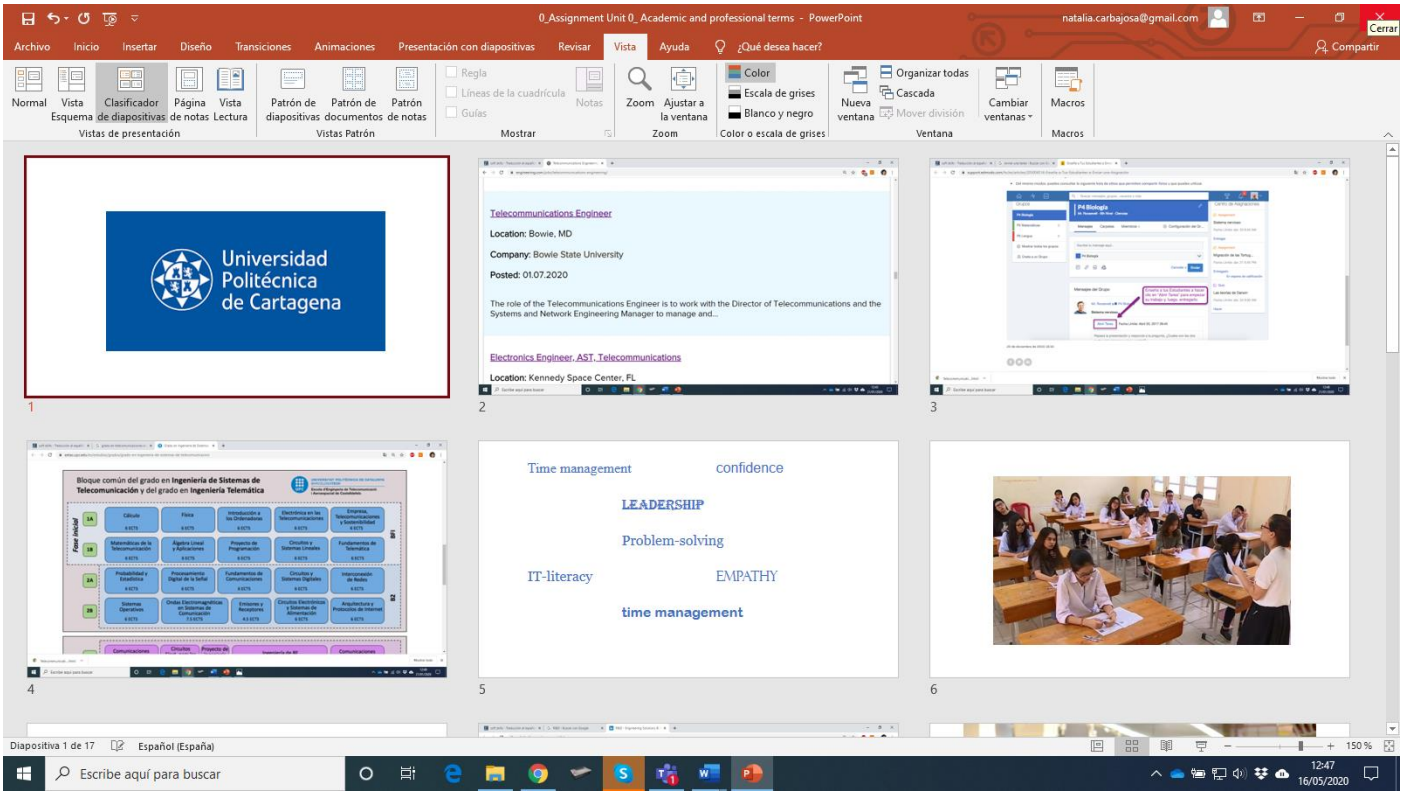
Parts 1-4 will be dealt with in the video lesson and in class, including exercises a, b and c. Parts 5-6 must be done after the class and included in the students' portfolio

1. Introduction: Academic English vs. English for Specific Purposes.

2. Academic and professional terms: false friends and correct use.

career, degree, Master's degree, Technical University, Telecommunications Systems Engineering/Engineer, job title, responsibilities (responsible for), soft skills (problem-solving, IT literacy, leadership, flexibility), core/compulsory/elective subject/course, take/sit an exam, deliver/submit-delivery/submission of (an essay, an assignment, a report, a task), undergraduate (postgraduate/graduate), attend (a lesson, a seminar), major/minor, assessment/rubrics/score/marks/qualifications, class representative, term, field of knowledge/academic field, research, innovation and development, classmate, scholarship, recruitment, training/apprenticeship/internship, application (applicant, to apply for/to), candidate, PhD/Doctorate, facility (-ies), faculty, lab, Higher Education, requirements, university flyer/brochure, research paper, Final Degree Project

Exercise a: Which of the terms above apply to the following situations / images shown on the slides?



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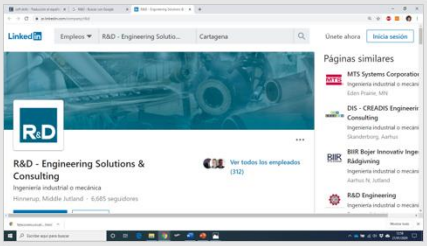

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•Organizing programs and activities in accordance with the mission and goals of the organization.
•Developing new programs to support the strategic direction of the organization.
•Creating and managing long-term goals.
•Developing a budget and operating plan for the program.
•Developing an evaluation method to assess program strengths and identify areas for improvement.
•Writing program funding proposals to guarantee uninterrupted delivery of services.
•Managing a team with a diverse array of talents and responsibilities.
•Ensuring goals are met in areas including customer satisfaction, safety, quality and team member performance.

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safety, quality and team member performance.

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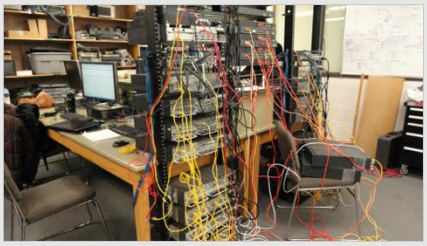

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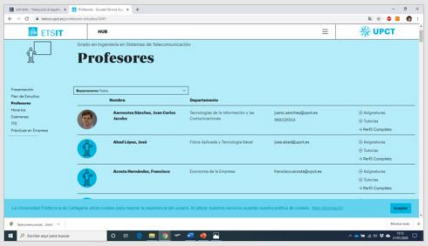

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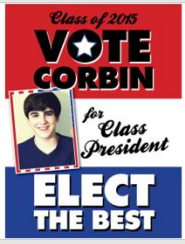

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3. Academic English in real contexts I: Let's watch this 1-minute promotional video from the Communications Engineering School at Carleton University, Ottawa:

https://admissions.carleton.ca/videos/communications-engineering-program-trailer/

Exercise b: Let's answer the following questions about the video:

-Which were older ways of communicating over long distances?

-As the demand for more transmission or data increases, the whole goal of communication engineering is…

-Which current technologies are mentioned?

-Which application fields are mentioned?

-How do they pronounce…?
DEVICES / CONNECTED / COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING / TRANSMISSION / DATA / INCREASES / AVIONICS / FUTURE / CONNECTIVITY

4. Academic English in context II: These are parts of a flyer from the Communications Engineering School at Carleton University:

Telecommunications engineers play an integral role in developing the world as we know it. They are the architects of cloud computing, satellites, smart phones, Internet applications, social networking technologies, wireless systems, and integrated voice, data and video communications.

Telecommunications experts have engineered the ever-present interconnectivity of our devices, permitting our everyday lives to be enhanced by the internet of everything. They are responsible for designing, building and operating the robust telecommunications and related distributed information systems that have permeated our culture and determined the future of business and entertainment.

Our Bachelor of Engineering (BEng) degree program in Communications Engineering offers:

- integrated studies in the principles and practice of telecommunications and related computer technologies;
- the development of strong problem-solving skills through hands-on laboratories and design work;
- lecturers who are telecommunications experts from the university, industry and government; and
- excellent scholarships for high-standing students.

Our laboratory and research facilities

As a Communications Engineering student at Carleton, you will have access to state-of-the-art laboratories and facilities sponsored by Alcatel, Texas Instruments, Huawei and TELUS for design work that emphasizes problem-solving skills and hands-on experience.

Calendar Year	Fall	Winter	Summer
1	study term 1	study term 2	
2	study term 3	study term 4	work term
3	study term 5	study term 6	work term
4	work term	work term	work term
5	study term 7	study term 8	

Choosing the right program

While studying telecommunications engineering at Carleton, you will gain a broad foundation in the basics of mathematics, physical sciences, and engineering sciences and technology. You will also develop a strong background in real-time computer systems and software engineering through the study of communications theory and practice, design and analysis of telecommunications components, systems, software, applications, and

regulatory and social issues. The program provides you with the flexibility required to practice in a world of rapidly changing technology, alongside the specific knowledge and skills that are highly valued by employers in the telecommunications and information industries. You will also have the option of pursuing further studies and continuing education, including graduate studies, in several areas.

The courses of a typical communications program are shown below.

Study Term 1

- Introduction to Engineering
- Calculus for Engineering or Physics
- Linear Algebra for Engineering or Science
- Chemistry for Engineering Students
- Complementary studies elective

Study Term 2

- Mechanics I
- Problem Solving and Computers
- Differential Equations and Infinite Series for Engineering or Physics
- Introductory Electromagnetism and Wave Motion
- Complementary studies elective

Study Term 3

- Multivariable Calculus for Engineering or Physics
- Computer Systems Foundations
- Foundations of Imperative Programming
- Circuits and Signals
- Communication Skills for Engineering Students
- Basic science elective

Study Term 4

- Mathematical Methods I
- Introductory Real-time Systems
- Object-oriented Software Development
- Electronics I
- Switching Circuits

Study Term 5

- Probability Models
- Electronics II
- Computer Communications
- Signals and Systems
- Digital Electronics

Study Term 6

- Communication Theory II
- Electromagnetic Waves
- Communications Software
- Engineering Economics
- Engineering elective

Study Term 7

- Engineering Project
- Digital Signal Processing
- Digital Communication Theory
- Distributed Network Processing
- Breadth elective
- Engineering elective

Study Term 8

- Engineering Project (continued)
- Telecommunications Engineering
- Communications Systems Lab
- Professional Practice
- Breadth elective
- Complementary studies elective

Your future opportunities

As a graduate of the communications engineering program, you will be well equipped for a myriad of positions that are in the high demand. Within the telecommunications industry, you can find yourself in research and development, manufacturing, installation, operational maintenance, protocols and new services testing. For the computer industry, you will have the tools to engineer telecommunications products, distributed computer networks and multimedia systems, as well as the knowledge to interface them with telecommunications facilities.

Telecommunications engineers are also essential to the financial, transportation, hospitality and defence industries, government research and development laboratories, regulatory and licensing agencies, standards organizations and telecommunications service providers.

Admission requirements

For admission to the Communications Engineering program, you must have an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or equivalent, including a minimum of six 4U/M courses. Your six courses must include four prerequisite courses:

- Advanced Functions
- Chemistry
- Physics

Although it is not an admission requirement, at least one 4U course in either English or French is recommended.

Since the number of qualified applicants may be greater than the number of available spaces, cut-off averages and required marks may vary.

Exercise c: let's underline all the academic and professional terms that we find in the flyer and relate them with a specific academic concept (e.g.: "problem-solving skills" = soft skills).

5. Written assignment for your portfolio:

Write one paragraph (around 100-120 words) with your personal academic profile, using the words learnt in this unit. You must include the following information items: the degree that you're taking, and its major; briefly describe the facilities of your school or campus; name a few relevant courses; say in which professional sector you would like to work in the future; name two soft skills that you have, and one that you do not have. *e.g. My name is … and I am studying … at the …, major in…*

Here is a list of the most usual soft skills:

Noun form	**Adjective form**
Communication, motivation	Communicative, motivated
Creativity, flexibility	Creative, flexible
Time-management skills	Able to manage time, meet deadlines…
(I have) problem-solving skills	(I am) good at problem solving
Leadership	Able to lead a team
IT-literacy	IT-literate
Ability to work in a team	Able to work in a team

6. Search assignment for your portfolio: Go to http://inglesuniversitario.upct.es/ and click on Nivel 1: Lenguaje de aula. Choose 3 academic terms that haven't come up in this unit and write down their meaning and example of use in your file. Check the context link in each case and write down what it refers to.