



INTRODUCTION TO LEGAL ENGLISH

Total Hours: 40 (32 Lectures/Seminars + 8 Preparation and Study)

Language requirements: Intermediate Level of English

Audience: the course is open to everybody and in particular to professionals with a legal background, undergraduate and graduate students of the Facoltà di Scienze Economiche, Giuridiche e Politiche.

Registration fee: 350 Euro

Special registration fee for students: 250 Euro

Deadline for registration: 10 September 2017

Introduction to Legal English is a course on U.K., U.S. and international Legal English that combines lectures and interactive teaching sessions.

The course is organised and mainly held by Ms Anna Maria Mancaleoni, Professor of Private Comparative Law at the University of Cagliari and Lawyer, and Ms Chiara Rotondi, Lawyer, Italian-English certified legal translator and Legal Research Assistant at the University of Cagliari.

The course is divided in 8 units and sub-units. Some units deal with topics of general interest: features, similarities and differences between the common law and the civil law legal systems, EU law, conflict of law rules, business communication; some units are specifically focused on contract law and judicial practice.

Each topic will be introduced by a general lecture on the relevant legal framework, followed by a more detailed analysis of the language.

The lectures and the seminars will be held partly in Italian and partly in English. Participants who do not feel overly confident in English will have the opportunity to obtain clarifications in Italian. Conversely, those who are reasonably fluent in English will gain a comparative knowledge of the legal systems involved whilst improving their legal language skills. Legal English materials will be made available.

The course can also be a preliminary step for the preparation of TOLES (Test of Legal English Skills).

At the end of the course the participants who attended at least 6 units or sub-units (24 hours in total) will be given an attendance certificate.

Lawyers attending the course will be entitled to 10 training credits.

Accountants will be entitled to a certain number of training credits that are currently being decided by their professional organisation.

Students seeking the recognition of credits will have to make a specific request to that end to the person or body responsible before the course begins. The right to credits is subject to the relevant university regulations.

The course will start at the end of October and will take place on Thursday/Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings, as follows:
October 27 (Friday), 28 (Saturday); November 3 (Friday), 4 (Saturday); 10 (Friday); 17 (Friday); 24 (Friday); December 1 (Friday).
The dates could be subject to some minor changes, also depending on the participants' number and availability.

The course will be held at the Dipartimento di Giurisprudenza della Facoltà di Scienze Economiche, Giuridiche e Politiche of Cagliari, in Viale Sant'Ignazio.

Those interested are to enrol no later than 10 September 2017 by filling in the form on the website of the Dipartimento di Giurisprudenza <http://dipartimenti.unica.it/giurisprudenza/altri-corsi/>. For any further information you can contact Professor Anna Maria Mancaleoni (email address: mancaleoni@unica.it). The course will be activated provided that at least 20 people apply.

Programme

Unit I – General Legal English (8 hrs.)

Test

Sub-unit I a) (4 hrs.)

- General introduction to the Course: overview, objectives
- (1) Common law vs civil law
- (2) English law vs US-American law
- (3) Terminology

Sub-unit I b) (4 hrs.)

- (4) The UK and US judicial system: an overview
- (5) Binding precedent
- (6) Case study
- (7) Terminology

Test

Unit II – Contract Law (8 hrs.)

Sub-unit II a) (4 hrs.)

- (1) Definition of contract
- (2) Specific topics
- (3) Case study

Sub-unit II b) (4 hrs.)

- (4) Specific contracts
- (5) Tort law in a nutshell
- (6) Terminology

Test

Unit III - EU Law (4 hrs.)

- (1) General principles governing the relationship between the EU and the Member States
- (2) The preliminary ruling procedure
- (3) Action for damages against the State for breach of EU law
- (3a) Terminology
- (4) Case study

Unit IV – Conflict of Laws and Business Communication (4 hrs.)

Sub-unit IV a) (2 hrs.)

- (1) Overview on the sources
- (2) In particular: EU Regulation 593/2008 on the law applicable to contractual obligations and EU Regulation 1215/2012 on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters
- (3) Terminology

Sub-unit IV b) (2 hrs.)

- (4) Drafting business e-mails/letters
- (5) Talking to the client

Test

Unit V - Legal English in Practice (8 hrs.)

Sub-unit V a) (4 hrs.)

- (1) Claim and defense
- (2) Examples and terminology
- (3) Drafting a claim

Sub-unit V b) (4 hrs.)

- (4) Contract Drafting
- (5) Examples and terminology
- (6) Drafting a contract
- (6a) Discussion

Test

