GB13222 – Technical English II
Initial Orientation

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1   Outline

The goal of this lecture is to improve your English communication abilities in technical and academic contexts. To reach this objective we will practice reading, comprehension and debate skills, using texts from international magazines and scientific journals.

The final objective is to develop students who are able not only to acquire and analyze information available in English, but also to properly express their opinions in topics related to computer sciences.

Grading will be defined based on the evaluation of the following points:

- Class attendance;

- Participation in discussions;

- Short reports or verbal presentations.

2   Structure

At each class a discussion topic will be introduced. Reading materials about the topic will be provided, followed by a discussion between the students.

The professors will help students by guiding the discussion, and explaining complex or unfamiliar vocabulary and grammar.

The students are expected to develop and present an opinion on the topic, based on the materials introduced, their own experience in computer science, and their English skills.

A short essay on the topic and a discussion might be requested as a homework.

3 Class division

To reduce the number of students per class, and facilitate an efficient learning, the students will be divided into two groups A and B.

Starting from the second lecture, each group will attend classes in a different classrooms. Professor Claus will supervise group A, in the classroom 3A213. Professor Tomasz will supervise the group B in the classroom 3A214. The topics covered by each professor will differ.

If students wish to change their group, during the course, they should contact their supervising professor during the second lecture.

4 Examples of topics discussed last year

- Human–computer and brain–computer interfaces;

- Computational aspects of the future direct brain–to–brain interfacing;

- Neuro–robotics and human augmentation;

- Smart and adaptive multimedia environments;

- Artificial intelligence and human intelligence;

- Self–adaptive computer systems;

- Government and social networks;

- Crypto–currencies.

5 Contact information

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