PRONOUNCING MEDICAL ENGLISH:
AN INTRODUCTION

Course convenor:

Alessandro Rotatori

INTRODUCTION AND COURSE OVERVIEW

Having a **good pronunciation** helps us not only to be better understood, but also to understand native speakers more easily.

Even if people understand what we are saying, an incorrect pronunciation may still be perceived as funny, irritating, or may cause our interlocutors to become distracted or even stop **paying attention** to what we are saying. Moreover, views and opinions about our **ability to speak English** depend very much on the impression our pronunciation makes on the people we are talking to: if our pronunciation is poor, our English will be judged as poor, even if we are proficient in **grammar**, **vocabulary**, **reading** and **writing**.

For health professionals it is absolutely crucial that they are able to **communicate clearly and effectively** with **patients and colleagues**, or their reputation and credibility might be undermined. This implies **mastering English not just from a syntactic and lexical point of view**, but also from a phonetic one.

The course will cover the following topics:

- sounds and meaning
- pronunciation dictionaries and phonetic symbols
- medical English dictionaries
- consonant sounds of BrE and AmE
- vowel sounds of BrE and AmE
- relationship between spelling and sound
- accentuation and rhythm
- the surprises of connected speech
- intonation and meaning
- English accents
- pronunciation of words and expressions from the world of medicine and nursing.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Thanks to this course, participants will:

- learn the symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and the pronunciation of contemporary standard British and American English
- learn the pronunciations of a wide range of terms and expressions related to the medical field
- be able to express themselves more clearly and effectively.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The course consists of 6 sessions of 4 hours each, totalling 24 hours of class time.

The lessons will be organised in small groups to allow participants to receive personalised feedback from the tutor. Requests for rare or difficult words and expressions to be analysed phonetically are especially welcome.

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COURSES FOR LECTURERS
ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024

The courses will be taught by phonetician and **UniCamillus Language Centre** Director **Alessandro Rotatori** on the following dates:

GROUP A

- 6th October 2023, from 9.30am to 1.30pm (UniLabs, room 1)
- 13th October 2023, from 9.30am to 1.30pm (UniLabs, room 1)
- 20th October 2023, from 9.30am to 1.30pm (UniLabs, room 1)
- 27th October 2023, from 9.30am to 1.30pm (UniLabs, room 1)
- 3rd November 2023, from 9.30am to 1.30pm (UniLabs, room 1)

GROUP B

- 2nd October 2023, from 9.30am to 1.30pm (UniLabs, room 1)
- 9th October 2023, from 9.30am to 1.30pm (UniLabs, room 1)
- 16th October 2023, from 9.30am to 1.30pm (UniLabs, room 1)
- 23rd October 2023, from 9.30am to 1.30pm (UniLabs, room 1)
- 30th October 2023, from 9.30am to 1.30pm (UniLabs, room 1)

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