

HELA. Higher Education Lecturing Accreditation

Accreditation test for lecturing staff who teach in English

The University of Vigo's Plan for Linguistic Internationalisation (2013) states that lecturers imparting subjects in a foreign language must have B2 level accreditation or higher.

HELA is a specific test created by the University of Vigo in collaboration with the Language Centre to assess whether lecturers who lack official language accreditation do in fact possess the linguistic skills needed in order to teach in a foreign language successfully. It evaluates their mastery of the language, as well as fluency, communication skills, oral presentations, and the capacity to interact with students.

Structure of the test:

The test has two parts: one written and one oral. Both of them require the candidate to answer or give exposition in exercises linked to teaching activity, such as giving a presentation on a specific subject, replying to an email or explaining an exam.

Oral Presentation:

"The candidate will be asked to present a sample of what they might be required to teach in class. Their presentation should last between 5 and 7 minutes after which time they will be asked questions by the panel of three examiners. These questions will relate to the content of the presentation as well as to topics that are considered relevant to visiting students.

The candidate will also be required to ask the panel questions in order to ensure that they have understood the main points of the material presented. It is highly recommended that the candidate use visual aids during the presentation which ideally they should have brought on a pendrive".

Exam dates

HELA is held when requested by the Centres that inform the University Extension and International Relations Office of their intention to impart a subject or group of subjects in English.

Additional information

For further information please contact centrodelinguas@fundacionuvigo.es