
Course Title: Academic Writing and English Language Foundations

Code:	W-116
Term:	Winter 2017
ECTS credits:	6
Lessons per week:	90 + 90 min
Language:	English
Instructor:	Linda M. Steyne, PhD
Form of study:	seminar

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Prerequisite:

Academic English placement test.

Course Objectives

- Develop each student's basic English language skills, and writing skills and strategies
- Develop each student's critical reading and critical thinking skills
- Provide an understanding of the basics of English academic composition
- Train students in the composition of academic paragraphs and essays using accepted academic English writing conventions (outlines, thesis statements, topic sentences, cohesive devices, etc.)

Contents

This compulsory first-year writing and language course aims to prepare students for the study requirements in their other courses. Students work on their own, but also develop peer reviewing and feedback skills. Academic vocabulary and grammar will also be covered.

Required Readings

These will come from appropriate news sources on current events as they are reported. They will also be taken from the course textbooks as well as other sources provided by the instructor.

Primary Sources (available on Share)

Zemach, D. E., & Islam, C. (2011). *Writing Paragraphs: From Sentence to Paragraph*. London: Macmillan Education.

Zemach, D. E., & Rumisek, L. A. (2006). *Academic Writing: From Paragraph to Essay*. London: Macmillan Education.

Additional Readings and Resources

Purdue Online Writing Lab : <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

Planned Topics (Subject to change)

Week 1	11-Sep	Introduction
Week 2	18-Sep	The English Paragraph - Overview
Week 3	25-Sep	The Paragraph – The Topic Sentence
Week 4	2-Oct	The Paragraph – The Topic Sentence
Week 5	9-Oct	The Paragraph – Brainstorming and Outlining
Week 6	16-Oct	Outlines and Paragraph
Week 7	23-Oct	Peer Review (of outlines and paragraphs)
	30-Oct	Reading Week
Week 8	6-Nov	The Paragraph
Week 9	13-Nov	The Essay – Introductions
Week 10	20-Nov	The Essay – Introductions
Week 11	27-Nov	The Essay – Conclusions
Week 12	4-Dec	Peer Review (of essays)
Week 13	11-Dec	The Essay – in full
Week 14	18-Dec	In-class Essay

Assessment Criteria

15% Attendance (and on time)

15% Active participation in English at seminars, participation in debates, preparedness for class

50% Written class preparation (compositions – paragraphs and essays – on the contents and topics of previous lesson)

20% Final Essay (an in-class academic essay written the final week of class on one of three topics previously discussed/covered in class; students will have 90 minutes for this essay.)

Late Work

All assignments are required.

Late work will be docked 10% for each day it is late. After ten (10) days, work will not be accepted.

Grading Scale (%)

A – excellent: 100-93%

B – very good: 92-84%

C – good: 83-74%

D – satisfactory: 73-63%

E – sufficient: 62-51%

Fx – fail: 50-0%

Passing the course assumes that student was not absent from more than 4 lessons.