

Course outline: Academic Writing I

Equivalent to 3 ECTS credits

Content

The course focuses on the structure of different types of academic texts and treats:

- Basic genre analysis and critical reading of abstracts, published academic articles or parts of doctoral theses
- Identification of rhetorical patterns and features which create coherence
- Paragraphing and sentence structure
- Stylistic awareness at macro and micro levels
- Writing strategies and the writing processes
- Peer response techniques

Approval

This revised course was formally approved on 3 October 2019 by the Library Director, case no. ORU 3.4.4-05633/2019, and replaces “Academic Writing, step 1” (ORU 4.3.1-00740/2017).

Admissions policy

Participants must be admitted to third-cycle (doctoral/licentiate) programmes at Örebro University.

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course, successful participants will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Identify the characteristics of academic writing
- Identify rhetorical patterns in academic texts from their fields of research

Competence and skills

- Apply basic genre analysis for future academic writing projects
- Use typical features of academic writing
- Provide informed feedback on the structure of academic texts
- Reflect on the writing process and identify areas of their own academic writing that require particular focus and improvement

Teaching methods

The course is campus-based and is mainly taught through interactive seminars and workshops under the guidance of the course instructor. Independent study and participation in peer-response tasks are required. The focus is on improving participants' own writing, so it is essential that each participant has a research manuscript to work on during the course. Course material and information will be published on Blackboard. All participants will be required to write a writing log and prepare for teaching sessions.

Attendance of all teaching sessions is mandatory.

Language of instruction

English

Assessment

Examination is individual and based on active participation in all teaching sessions and peer-response work, the submitted writing log and assignments.

Certificate

A certificate is presented after satisfactory completion of the course.

Course literature

- Swales, J. & Feak, C. *Academic Writing for Graduate Students*. 3rd ed. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2012.
- Swales, J. & Feak, C. *Commentary for Academic Writing for Graduate Students*. 3rd ed. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2012.
- Thomson, P. & Kamler, B. *Detox Your Writing: Strategies for Doctoral Researchers*, Routledge, London, 2016. [paperback]



Recommended reading:

- Estling Vannerstål, M. *Essential English Grammar*. Lund: Studentlitteratur, 2012.
- Schmitt, D & Schmitt, N. *Focus on Vocabulary. Mastering the Academic Word List*. New York: Longman, 2005.
- Schmitt, D & Schmitt, N. *Focus on Vocabulary. Mastering the Academic Word List. Answer Keys and Tests*. New York: Longman, 2005.
- Additional material distributed on Blackboard and during teaching sessions.