



**CENTRE FOR BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES**

## **Academic Communication**

**MPU3262**  
(2 credits)

2022

**Module Guide**

**TITLE: ACADEMIC COMMUNICATION**

**COURSE CODE: MPU 3262**

**LEVEL:** Semester 1

**PROGRAMME:** Bachelor Medicine & Bachelor of Surgery & Bachelor of Dental Surgery

**CONTENT SYNOPSIS**

This course is designed to develop students' written and oral skills in English for formal purposes and in academic contexts. The aim of this course is to strengthen writing skills through conventions of academic essay and participate in academic presentation. Students will be taught through lectures, tutorials, and workshop to develop classification style essay and conduct seminars and debates. Students will be assessed through assignment and presentation on rhetoric functions of the academic communication style. On completion of this course, students will be able to speak and write confidently in the academic context.

**OBJECTIVES:**

The objectives of this module are to introduce students to:

1. the theory and conventions of academic writing
2. the rules of citation as used in the Vancouver style guide
3. the skill of making effective academic oral presentations
4. skills in critical and creative thinking

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

CLO1: present formal speeches by applying effective presentation strategies within academic context.

CLO2: conduct seminar or debate by applying critical thinking and interpersonal skills.

CLO3: apply writing strategies for academic purposes.

**LEARNING HOURS**

**TEACHING & LEARNING  
CONTACT HOURS:**

Lecture	7 hours
Tutorial	12 hours
Workshop	9 hours

**TOTAL 28 hours**

**TOTAL LEARNING HOURS:**

Lecture	7 hours
Tutorial	12 hours
Workshop	9 hours
Assessment (Continuous & Examination)	22 hours
Independent Learning	30 hours
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>80 hours</b>

## ASSESSMENTS

### *Formative Assessment:*

Students are to write a synthesis essay in classification format based on three or four given articles. The length of the synthesis is about 300 words.

### *Continuous Assessment*

#### **Presentation** 10%

You will be required to present a formal speech between 5 to 7 minutes ONLY, with the aid of Power Point slides. The aim of the oral presentation is to enable students to present a current topic related to healthcare with confidence. The topic you have selected must be well researched and supported with evidence from at least three reliable sources.

#### **Assignment** 30%

You will be required to write an academic essay in classification style in not less than 1500 words. Broad themes for the essay will be given. You must identify a topic within the theme and support your discussion with evidence from not fewer than five reliable sources.

#### **Project** 30%

You will be required to participate in a Socratic Seminar and/ or Debate.

### *End of Module Examination*

#### **Online Synchronous** 30%

The examination is 1 hour and 40 minutes. You will be required to write an 600-word academic essay based on three or four articles provided. Write in formal, academic style with in-text citation and reference list.

## **SYLLABUS:**

1. Overview of Classification style essay (L: 1hr T: 2hr)
2. Developing topic and thesis statement (L: 1hr T: 2hr)
3. Developing paragraphs (L: 1hr T: 2hr)
4. Paraphrasing and summarizing skills (L: 1hr T: 2hr)
5. Synthesising skills (Online L: 1hr T: 2hr)
6. Writing practice (Online O: 3hr)
7. Overview of Academic Presentation – (L: 1hr T: 1hr)
8. Academic presentation practice (O: 3hr)
9. Overview of Socratic Seminar/Debate (L: 1hr T: 1hr)
10. Seminar/Debate practice (O: 3hr)

## **ATTENDANCE RELATED REQUIREMENTS**

This module has a total of 10 sessions for teaching and learning including presentations. Students who fail to achieve 75% attendance will be at risk of failing the module.

## **READING LIST:**

1. Hamilton, G. Public Speaking for college and career. McGraw-Hill.2004.
2. Terryberry K. Writing for The Health Professionals. NY: Delmar Learning;2005.
3. Oshima A, Hogue A. Introduction to Academic Writing [3rd ed] NY: Pearson Education; 2007.
4. Langan J. College Writing Skills with Readings [6th ed] USA: McGraw-Hill; 2005.
5. Savage A, Masoud S. Effective Academic Writing 1. UK: Oxford University Press; 2007.