



Academic Writing

MPU3232
(2 credits)

2024-2026

Module Guide

TITLE: ACADEMIC WRITING

COURSE CODE: MPU 3232

LEVEL: Semester 1 / 2 / 6

PROGRAMME: Bachelor of Medicine & Bachelor of Surgery, Bachelor of Dental Surgery, Bachelor of Nursing (Honours)

CONTENT SYNOPSIS

The course explores the fundamental skills of academic writing strategies using a step-by-step approach, clear relevant models, and varied practices to writing. Students will be facilitated through lecture, tutorial, and workshop to develop a well-organised, coherent, and logical essay using different styles of organisation. Through assignment and project, students will express themselves in academic register, utilizing the theories and conventions of writing which include paraphrasing, summarising, synthesising, and referencing. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to produce the compare-contrast and cause-effect academic essays.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this module are to introduce students to:

1. introduce students to the conventions of academic writing.
2. enhance students' use of written English in compare-contrast and cause-effect styles.
3. develop students' clarity of thought and research skills.
4. inculcate critical thinking skills.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On completion of this module, the students should be able to:

- a. produce academic essay in compare-contrast and cause-effect style using proper citation and referencing.
- b. develop coherent essays by applying summarizing, paraphrasing and synthesising strategies.
- c. apply accurate English language register for academic writing purposes.

LEARNING HOURS			
CONTACT HOURS:		TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS:	
Others (F2F)	12 hours	Others (F2F)	12 hours
Online Lecture	10 hours	Online Lecture	10 hours
Others	6 hours	Others	6 hours
		Assessment	21 hours
		Independent Learning	31 hours
TOTAL CONTACT HOURS	28 hours	TOTAL LEARNING HOURS	80 hours

ASSESSMENTS

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT:

Writing conventions

Students will do e-learning tasks on their own time to enhance their proficiency as well as to strengthen their writing skills.

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS:

Continuous Assessment

Project 30%

Collaborative Synthesis

Students will work in groups of about 6 members and write a synthesis essay based on the three given articles. The length of the synthesis is about 1500 words.

Assignment 1 (Individual) 20%

Compare-and-Contrast Essay.

Students are to write a compare-contrast essay on the selected topic by synthesising information from at least five self-sourced articles. The length of the essay is about 1000 words.

Assignment 2 (Individual) 20%

Cause-and-Effect Essay

Students are to write a cause-effect essay on the selected topic by synthesising information from at least five self-sourced articles. The length of the essay is about 1000 words.

End-of-Module Examination (OAS)

Written Test 30%

The examination question has one section. Students are to write a synthesis essay in either cause-effect or compare-contrast format based on three or four given articles. The length of the synthesis is about 600 words. The aim of this assessment is to enable students to plan and write essays in various academic formats and to use proper referencing skills to write a research article.

MODULE COORDINATOR & LECTURER: Dr Thulasimani Munohsamy

ASSOCIATE LECTURERS: Associate Prof Dr Sheba D Mani & Dr Arlini Alias

SYLLABUS:

- 1. Overview of Academic Writing** (*Lecture – 1-hour, Online Tutorial – 1 hour*)
- 2. Introductory Paragraph** (*Lecture – 1-hour, Online Tutorial – 1 hour*)
- 3. Paragraph Structure** (*Lecture – 1-hour, Online Tutorial – 1 hour*)
- 4. Supporting Details** (*Online Lecture- 1hour, Others – 2 hours*)
- 5. Synthesising Skills** (*Workshop – 3 hours*)
- 6. Citation and Referencing Skills** (*Online Workshop – 3 hours*)
- 7. Collaborative Writing** (*Online Workshop – 3 hours*)
- 8. Language Focus** (*Online Workshop – 2 hours*)
- 9. Compare-Contrast Essay I** (*Tutorial– 2 hours*)
- 10. Compare-Contrast Essay II** (*Online Tutorial– 2 hours*)
- 11. Cause-Effect Essay I** (*Tutorial– 2 hours*)
- 12. Cause-Effect Essay II** (*Online Tutorial– 2 hours*)

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:

Oshima A, Hogue A. Introduction to Academic Writing [3rd ed] NY: Pearson Education; 2007.

Langan J. & Albright Z. College Writing Skills with Readings [10th Ed): USA: McGraw-Hill US Higher Ed ISE; 2018.

Savage A, Masoud S. Effective Academic Writing 1. UK: Oxford University Press; 2007.