March/April Program 2016

14 March - 22 April 2016
Register online Monday 7 March sydney.edu.au/lc

- You must register online at the Learning Centre website: sydney.edu.au/lc
- There is a limit to the number of places available in each workshop.
- Workshops are open to all enrolled University of Sydney students and are free of charge.
- Learning Centre, Room 722, Education Building Manning Road. Phone: 9351 3853
Email: learning.centre@sydney.edu.au

ACADEMIC READING AND WRITING SKILLS

Introduction to Critical Reading (3 hours)
- Fri 18 March 3-6pm (Course No. 4775)
Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: undergraduates. Bring: example of course reading. Introduces process of critical thinking and reading, practises strategies for evaluating and asking critical questions about readings.

Critical Reading of a Research Article (3 hours)
- Tue 15 March 2-5pm (Course No. 4776)
Room 527 Education Building A35

- Fri 8 April 2-5pm (Course No. 4777)
Room 722 Education Building A35

- Mon 18 April 2-5pm (Course No. 4778)
Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: senior undergraduates (3rd year +), Masters and doctoral students. Bring: journal article from field of study. Covers interpreting and asking critical questions about a text and its subject matter.

Reading for Effective Note-taking (3 hours)
- Mon 14 March 9am-12noon (Course No. 4779)
Room 722 Education Building A35


Foundations of Grammar (Course No. 4780)
- Tue 15, 22 March, 5 and 12 April 2-4pm (8 hours)
Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: all students. Bring: sample of own writing. This course looks at four basic areas of English grammar (sentence structure, verb groups, verb tenses and noun groups) from the point of view of the academic reader and writer. It will build your understanding of grammatical terminology and description.

Functional Grammar for Academic Writing (10 hours)
- Tue 15, 22 March, 5, 12 and 19 April 9-11am (Course No. 4781)
Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: students who have successfully completed the workshop “Foundations of Grammar” or a grammar diagnostic test. Bring: piece of your own writing. Builds on “Foundations of Grammar” and looks at expressing meaning through grammatical choices in academic writing.

Essay Writing (12 hours)
- Tue 15, 22 March, 5 and 12 April 4-7pm (Course No. 4782)

- Wed 16, 23 March, 6 and 13 April 3-6pm (Course No. 4783)

- Thu 17, 24 March, 7 and 14 April 3-6pm (Course No. 4784)

- Tue 29, Wed 30, Thu 31 March and Fri 1 April 2-5pm (Course No. 4785)
Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: undergraduates, first year, Masters by coursework. Covers characteristics of persuasive analytical essays for social science and humanities. Focuses on developing an analytic argument and incorporating evidence.

SHORT ESSAY WRITING WORKSHOPS
These workshops cover the same areas as the twelve hour essay writing workshop, therefore demonstrating a critical perspective in the twelve hour workshop OR in one or more of the short workshops.

Analysing an Assignment Question (2 hours)
- Mon 14 March 3-5pm (Course No. 4786)

- Wed 23 March 9-11am (Course No. 4787)

- Fri 8 April 12noon-2pm (Course No. 4788)
Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: undergraduates, first year, Masters by coursework. Provides strategies for identifying the focus of the question and investigating how the wording of a question affects the structure of the response.

Developing an Argument (3 hours)
- Tue 5 April 11am-2pm (Course No. 4789)
Room 722 Education Building A35

- Thu 21 April 10am-1pm (Course No. 4790)
Room 325 Education Building A35

Target group: undergraduates, first year, Masters by coursework. Focuses on developing an argument by synthesising, evaluating and presenting evidence from relevant literature to substantiate a point of view.

Planning an Assignment (2 hours)
- Wed 16 March 9-11am (Course No. 4791)

- Mon 4 April 10am-12noon (Course No. 4792)

- Mon 11 April 9am-12pm (Course No. 4793)
Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: undergraduates, first year, Masters by coursework. Covers the planning and structure of common written assignments.

Analytical Writing (2 hours)
- Mon 4 April 12noon-2pm (Course No. 4794)
Room 722 Education Building A35

- Tue 5 April 9-11am (Course No. 4795)
Room 452 Education Building A35

- Tue 19 April 10am-2pm (Course No. 4796)
Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: undergraduates, first year, Masters by coursework. Looks at the differences between analytical and descriptive writing, and the process involved in developing an analytical approach to ideas and information.

Introduction to Critical Writing in Essays (3 hours)
- Mon 21 March 9am-12noon (Course No. 4797)
Room 508 Education Building A35

Target group: undergraduates, first year, Masters by coursework. Identifies the types of university assignments that require a critical approach. Covers developing and demonstrating a critical perspective within essays. Includes examples, language features and writing practice.

Using Evidence in Essays (3 hours)
- Thu 17 March 9am-12noon (Course No. 4798)
Room 722 Education Building A35

- Tue 22 March 11am-2pm (Course No. 4799)
Room 722 Education Building A35

- Wed 30 March 10am-1pm (Course No. 4800)
Room 722 Education Building A35

- Fri 15 April 2-5pm (Course No. 4801)
Room 440 Old Teachers College A22

Target group: undergraduates, first year, Masters by coursework. Covers evaluating sources of evidence, using evidence critically and to support your argument, synthesising evidence to find patterns and develop your argument and paraphrasing skills.

Writing in an Academic Style (2 hours)
English speaking background students
- Wed 16 March 11am-1pm (Course No. 4802)

- Mon 11 April 11am-1pm (Course No. 4803)

- Tue 19 April 11am-1pm (Course No. 4804)
Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: all students. Bring: draft of current writing. Focuses on some of the characteristics of successful academic writing across all disciplines, eg. formality, objectivity, conciseness and impersonality.

Writing a Critical Review on a Single Text or Object (3 hours)
- Mon 21 March 1-4pm (Course No. 4805)
Room 438 Education Building A35

- Fri 22 April 10am-1pm (Course No. 4806)
Room 521 Education Building A35

Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework. Bring (if possible): the text to be critically reviewed. Covers developing and demonstrating a critical perspective in a more complex critical review of a debate, methodology, theory, topic area, etc. Includes examples, language features and writing practice.

Professional Report Writing in the Social Sciences (3 hours)
- Mon 14 March 12noon-3pm (Course No. 4809)
Room 427 Old Teachers College A22

- Wed 23 March 10am-1pm (Course No. 4810)
Room 432 Education Building A35

Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework. This workshop focuses on the language resources necessary to develop arguments and critical evaluation in order to respond to a real-world scenario or case study. (1) demonstrate critical analysis of a particular real-world problem, and (2) make recommendations to a course of action by an imagined client, business or government department.

Clearer Writing (3 hours)
English speaking background students
- Fri 18 March 2-5pm (Course No. 4811)
Room 442 Old Teachers College A22

- Mon 4 April 2-5pm (Course No. 4812)
Room 722 Education Building A35

- Fri 22 April 11am-2pm (Course No. 4813)
Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: all students. Bring: draft of writing. Aims to make explicit the linking structures in English which make writing clear and logical and includes writing practice in using these structures.

Quoting, Summarising and Paraphrasing Evidence (3 hours)
- Thu 17 March 12noon-3pm (Course No. 4814)
Room 722 Education Building A35

- Mon 21 March 9am-12pm (Course No. 4815)
Room 722 Education Building A35

- Thu 7 April 9am-12noon (Course No. 4816)
Room 311 Education Annex A36

- Thu 21 April 3-5pm (Course No. 4817)
Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: all students. Helps you to identify the differences between quoting and reporting, and gives practice in language strategies to help avoid plagiarism.

Language Strategies for Referring to Evidence (2 hours)
- Tue 15 March 11am-1pm (Course No. 4818)

- Thu 24 March 1-3pm (Course No. 4819)

- Mon 11 April 4-6pm (Course No. 4820)

- Tue 19 April 1-3pm (Course No. 4821)
Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: all students/first year students. Focuses on the range of grammatical structures, reporting verbs and tenses that are available, and presents guidelines for choosing appropriately.
Critical Reflection in the Social and Health Sciences

STUDY SKILLS

Procrastination and Managing Time (2 hours)
- Wed 16 March 1-3pm (Course No. 4823)
- Mon 18 April 12noon-2pm (Course No. 4824)
- Fri 22 April 9-11am (Course No. 4825)
Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: all students. This workshop will be helpful for students who are required to describe and reflect on a critical incident; critically respond to and reflect on a real-life scenario; or explain a personal or professional experience from a theoretical perspective in order to demonstrate critical reflection and transform disciplinary knowledge in the social and health sciences.

ORAL PRESENTATION SKILLS

These workshops aim to develop your public speaking skills for tutorial/semester and conference presentation, and include short practice sessions using video feedback.

Oral Presentation Skills for Undergraduates

English speaking background students (6 hours)
- Wed 6, 13, 20 April 9-11am (Course No. 4826)
Room 722 Education Building A35

Oral Presentation Skills for Undergraduates non English speaking background students (8 hours)
- Wed 6, 13, 20 April 12noon-3pm (Course No. 4827)
Room 722 Education Building A35

Oral Presentation Skills for Postgraduates

English speaking background students (6 hours)
- Thu 7, 14, and 21 April 9-11am (Course No. 4828)
Room 722 Education Building A35

Oral Presentation Skills for Postgraduates non English speaking background students (8 hours)
- Thu 7, 14, and 21 April 12noon-3pm (Course No. 4829)
Room 722 Education Building A35

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAM

Preparing a Thesis Proposal (3 hours)
- Wed 23 March 11am-2pm (Course No. 4830)
- Wed 20 April 3-6pm (Course No. 4831)
Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: Masters by research, doctoral students. Bring: sample proposal from your department (if available). Provides an overview of the proposal with particular emphasis on the introductory stage and the expression of aims, research questions and hypotheses.

Preparing for Postgraduate Study - Research (Course No. 4832)
- Mon 14 March 12noon-3pm (3 hours)
Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: Masters by research, doctoral students (early stages). Covers preliminary stages of independent research: research questions, methodologies, characteristics of quality research, establishing and managing a bibliography.

Writing a Thesis Including Publications (3 hours)
- Wed 16 March 2-5pm (Course No. 4833)
Room 440 Old teachers College A22
- Thu 24 March 10am-1pm (Course No. 4834)
Room 722 Education Building A35
- Tue 12 April 2-5pm (Course No. 4835)
Room 527 Education Building A35
Target group: doctoral students. This workshop is based on a study of recent successful theses and will cover: the format of a thesis which includes publications; the use of tools to enhance cohesion; and strategies to avoid duplication in the several literature reviews required, plus any other areas of concern.

Writing a Literature Review (8 hours)
- Sat 19 March 10am-1pm & 2-5pm (Course No. 4836)
Room 722 Education Building A35
- Fri 8 April 10am-1pm & 2-5pm (Course No. 4837)
Room 521 Education Building A35
- Fri 15 April 10am-1pm & 2-5pm (Course No. 4838)
Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: Masters by research, doctoral students. Bring: 4 or 5 research articles relevant to topic, literature review from own field. Examines purpose of review as well as structuring, synthesising and evaluating the literature.

Preparing for Postgraduate Study - Coursework (2 hours)
- Mon 21 March 12noon-2pm (Course No. 4839)
Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: beginning Masters by coursework students. Covers time management, working in small groups, accessing and managing electronic and print information.

Writing Coursework Assignments (3 hours)
- Fri 18 March 9am-12noon (Course No. 4840)
- Fri 22 April 2-5pm (Course No. 4841)
Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: Masters by coursework students. Bring: a draft of a current assignment. This workshop looks at possible structures of coursework assignments, the component parts and the links between them.

Managing Literature for Coursework (3 hours)
- Tue 5 April 2-5pm (Course No. 4842)
Room 527 Education Building A35
- Tue 12 April 11am-2pm (Course No. 4843)
Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: Masters by coursework students. Bring: 2 articles for a current coursework assignment. This workshop discusses how literature from your field can be used to support argument in your coursework assignment, and looks at strategies for organising your references.

Develop your oral presentation and discussion skills

Oral Presentation Skills for Postgraduates non English speaking background students
- Wed 6, 13, 20 April 3-5pm (6 hours)
Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework. Bring: draft of current writing. Focuses on some of the characteristics of successful academic writing across all disciplines, e.g. formality, objectivity, conciseness and impersonality.

Introduction to Critical Reading (3 hours)
- Mon 18 April 9am-12noon (Course No. 4845)
Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework. Bring: draft of current writing. Focuses on some of the characteristics of successful academic writing across all disciplines, e.g. formality, objectivity, conciseness and impersonality.

Reading Strategies (3 hours)
- Fri 16 March 12noon-3pm (Course No. 4846)
Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: undergraduates, Practises basic strategies of skimming and scanning.

Reading for Effective Note-taking (3 hours)
- Mon 21 March 2-5pm (Course No. 4847)
Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework. Bring: draft of current writing. Aims to make explicit the linking structures in English which make writing clear, logical and includes writing practice in using these structures.

Clearer Writing (Course No. 4848)
- Sat 2 April 10am-1pm & 2-5pm (6 hours)
Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework. Bring: draft of current writing. Aims to make explicit the linking structures in English which make writing clear, logical and includes writing practice in using these structures.

Discussion Skills & Working in Groups (3 hours)
- Mon 11 April 1-4pm (Course No. 4849)
Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework. This workshop provides strategies for effective participation in academic discussion and focused language practice. It helps you set up personal goals for developing your skills. Also examines challenges of working in groups and teams, and suggests strategies for making groups more effective.

Pronunciation Skills (Course No. 4850) (12 hours)
- Tue 29, Thu 31 March and Fri 1 April 10am-2pm
Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: all students. Bring: if possible, your own audio recording device, e.g. phone, MP3, digital recorder. Provides practice in identifying and correcting common pronunciation problems in English. Develops methods for improving speaking and pronunciation.

HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR ACADEMIC LANGUAGE AND LEARNING THROUGH LEARNING CENTRE COURSES

Develop your grammatical knowledge
- Foundations of Grammar
- Functional Grammar for Academic Writing

Develop your essay writing
- The Essay Writing Course
- Analysing an Assignment
- Analytical Writing
- Developing an Argument
- Introduction to Critical Writing in Essays
- Planning an Assignment

Develop using evidence skills in your writing
- Language Strategies for Referring to Evidence
- Quoting, Paraphrasing and Summarising Evidence
- Using Evidence in Essays

Develop a clear academic style
- Clearer Writing
- Writing in an Academic Style

Develop your critical reading and thinking skills
- Introduction to Critical Reading
- Critical Reading of a Research Article
- Critical Thinking
- Reading and Note-taking skills

Develop your approach to study and exam techniques
- Procrastination and Managing Time
- Practice for Multiple Choice Question Exams
- Practice for Short Answer Exams

Develop your oral presentation and discussion skills
- Oral Presentation Skills
- Discussion Skills
- Working in Groups
- Pronunciation Skills

Develop your critical writing
- Writing a Critical Review
- Writing a Critical Review on a Topic Area
- Professional Report and Case Study Writing
- Critical Writing in Essays

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