Honours Program

Managing the Final Stages of an Honours Year (2 hours)
• Thur 19 Sept 10am-1pm, Course No 6423 Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: honours students in the last semester of their honours year. Bring: time lines.
Provides strategies for coping with completing a thesis under pressure.

Writing Introductions, Conclusions and Abstracts (3 hours)
• Wed 18 Sept 10am-1pm, Course No 6424 Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: honours students at the end of the thesis writing process. Bring: draft introduction and conclusion (and if possible abstract). Provides an overview of the structure and language of these sections of a thesis.

Overview of an Honours Thesis (3 hours)
• Tue 17 Sept 2-5pm, Course No 6425 Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: honours students in the first semester of their honours year. Bring: content page/thesis outline. Provides a generalised description of the typical structure and purpose of each section of the thesis.

Developing Your Thesis Argument (3 hours)
• Wed 18 Sept 2-5pm, Course No 6426 Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: honours students in the writing process. Bring: draft of sections of the middle part of the thesis. Examplifies how to develop the argument in the middle sections of the thesis by evaluating literature and discussing results.

Writing an Honours Proposal (3 hours)
• Tue 17 Sept 10am-1pm, Course No 6427 Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: honours students writing/about to write their proposal. Bring: draft of sections of proposal. Provides models and guidelines for writing a thesis proposal.

Preparing for Exams

Practice for Short Answer Exams (3 hours)
• Mon 30 Sept 10am-1pm, Course No 6428 Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: undergraduates, Masters coursework. Bring: examples of past exam questions (if available). Analyses and classifies short answer questions, practises outlining and writing short answers under time pressure.

Practice for Multiple Choice Question Exams (3 hours)
• Wed 9 Oct 10am-1pm, Course No 6429 Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: undergraduates, Masters coursework. Bring: examples of past exam questions (if available). Examines formats, instructions and wording of multiple choice question exams, offers practical strategies.

Practice for Essay Exams (3 hours)
• Fri 11 October 1-4pm, Course No 6431 Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: undergraduates, Masters coursework. Bring: examples of past exam questions (if available). Analyses and classifies essay questions, practises outlining and writing essay answers under time pressure.

Procrastination and Managing Time (2 hours)
• Fri 4 Oct 2-4pm, Course No 6432 Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: undergraduates. Presents strategies for enhancing concentration and dealing with procrastination.

General Workshop Program

ACADEMIC WRITING SKILLS

Essay Writing
• Mon 16, 23, 30 Sept and 14 Oct, 2-5pm Course No 6433 Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: undergraduates. Covers characteristics of persuasive analytical essays for social science and humanities. Focuses on developing an analytical argument and incorporating evidence. Note: If you register for this workshop you do not need these short essay writing workshops: Analytical Writing, Planning an Assignment, Analysing the Assignment Question, Developing an Argument, Using Evidence in Essays, Introduction to Critical Writing in Essays.

Analyzing an Assignment Question (2 hours)
• Fri 27 Sept 10am-12noon, Course No 6435 Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework students. Provides strategies for identifying the focus of the question and investigating how the wording of a question affects the structure of the response.

Planning an Assignment (2 hours)
• Thur 26 Sept 1-3pm, Course No 6436 Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework students. Covers the planning and structure of common written assignments.

Developing an Argument (3 hours)
• Fri 27 Sept 1-4pm, Course No 6437 Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework students. Focuses on developing an argument by synthesising, evaluating and presenting evidence from relevant literature to substantiate a point of view.

Analytical Writing (2 hours)
• Fri 11 Oct 10am-12noon, Course No 6438 Room 722 Education Building A35
Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework students. Looks at the differences between analytical and descriptive writing, and the process involved in developing an analytical approach to ideas and information.
Writing in an Academic Style (2 hours)

2 hour short course for English speaking background students

• Thur 26 Sept 10am-12noon, Course No 6439
  Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework students. 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.

Writing in an Academic Style (6 hours)

for non English speaking background students

• Thur 19, 26 Sept and 3 Oct 3-5pm
  Course No 6440
  Room 722 Education Building A35

• Sat 5 Oct 10am-1pm and 2-5pm
  Course No 6441
  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.

Clearer Writing

for non English speaking background students

• Sat 12 October 10am-1pm and 2-5pm
  Course No 6442
  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 and logical and includes writing practice in using these structures.

Quoting, Summarising and Paraphrasing Evidence

• Mon 16 Sept 10am-1pm, Course No 6443
  Room 722 Education Building A35

• Wed 25 Sept 2-5pm, Course No 6444
  Room 722 Education Building A35

• Wed 9 Oct 2-5pm, Course No 6445
  Room 722 Education Building A35

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

Professional Report Writing (3 hours)

• Mon 23 Sept 10am-1pm, Course No 6446
  Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework students. This workshop focuses on the language resources necessary to develop arguments and critical evaluation in order to (1) respond to a real-life scenario or case study, (2) demonstrate critical analysis of a particular real-world problem, and (3) make recommendations to a course of action by an imagined client, business or government department.

Writing Coursework Assignments (3 hours)

• Thur 3 Oct 10am-1pm, Course No 6447
  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 Assignments (3 hours)

• Wed 25 Sept 10am-1pm, Course No 6448
  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.

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH SKILLS

Writing a Literature Review (6 hours)

• Wed 2 October 10am-1pm and 2-5pm
  Course No 6449
  Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: Masters by research, doctoral students. Bring: 4-5 research articles relevant to topic, literature review from own field. Examines purpose of review as well as structuring, synthesising and evaluating the literature.

Writing a Thesis with Publications (3 hours)

• Fri 20 September 1-4pm Course No 6450
  Room 722 Education Building A35

Target group: doctoral students. This workshop is based on a study of recent successful theses and will cover: how to write an engaging introduction and a forceful conclusion, avoid duplication in the several literature reviews required, and develop a final overarching argument.

ORAL PRESENTATION SKILLS

Undergraduate non English speaking background students (8 hours)

• Tue 24 Sept, 1, 8 and 15 Oct 10am-12noon
  Course No 6451
  Room 722 Education Building A35

Postgraduate non English speaking background students (8 hours)

• Tue 24 Sept, 1, 8 and 15 Oct 1-3pm
  Course No 6452
  Room 722 Education Building A35

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

INDIVIDUAL CONSULTATIONS

As the semester comes to an end and students are preparing to submit their final assessments, the Learning Centre is offering consultations as part of its September/October program from Monday 14 to Friday 18 October. Students can make an appointment for a one-to-one consultation with Learning Centre lecturers to discuss any questions, difficulties or problems to do with language and other academic skills. These may include such things as planning or structuring an essay/report/case study, managing your workload, reading efficiently, writing analytically, etc.

Appointments are available between 10am and 4pm. A consultation outside these hours may be possible by prior arrangement. Consultations by phone and email are also available on request.

Email: learning.centre@sydney.edu.au

Note: Any questions or difficulties about the subject matter of your courses (e.g. statistics, biology) should be directed to the appropriate lecturers/tutors in your faculty and/or your peers.