

HW0105
ACADEMIC COMMUNICATION IN THE ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Study Year : SoH, SSS and ADM (except SoH CHIN) Year 1; HaSS Double major (ECPS, ECPP, ECMA, ELAH, PSLM, PSMA) Year 1

Academic Units : 2 AUs

Pre-requisite : Nil

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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

1. use descriptive skills to produce a short observational research essay;
2. apply persuasive and analytical skills to write an audience-specific argumentative essay; and
3. apply communicative skills to make presentations on an academic topic.

CONTENT

HW0105 is a foundation course with the broad aim of enabling HASS students to recognise and use an appropriate style of communication in academic settings related to various fields within the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. The basic premise of the course is that effective writing is contingent on critical thinking, reading and writing. Students will be exposed to a variety of texts to encourage them to critically evaluate and write about issues from multiple perspectives before they develop their own arguments. The need to consider the rhetorical situation and ethical issues is emphasised as students go through the process of planning, writing, and critically revising your own texts based on individual feedback. The course is designed specifically for the needs of NTU students and many of the texts and study topics have a Singapore focus. This course aims to equip students with the necessary skills for reading and thinking critically and writing effectively by:

1. analysing and evaluating academic texts;
2. cultivating an awareness of audience, context and purpose in writing tasks;
3. developing rhetorical skills relevant to the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences in Singapore; and
4. engaging with texts from a range of disciplines.

COURSE OUTLINE

Week	Tutorial topics	Reading/Activities
1	No tutorial	-
2	Observational research writing (I)	Unit 1
3	Observational research writing (II)	Unit 2
4	Revising and editing your work	Unit 3
5	Analytical writing	Unit 4
6	Persuasive writing	Unit 5
7	Persuasion and argumentation in new media	Unit 6
8	Argumentation (I)	Unit 7
9	Argumentation (II)	Unit 8
10	Preparing academic presentations	Unit 9
11	Delivering academic presentations	Unit 10

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12	In-class presentations	Student presentation
13	In-class presentations; Course review	Student presentation

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed by 100% continuous assessment. The assignments will focus on the course objectives of achieving proficiency in writing academic essays and presenting arguments effectively.

Assessment	Weighting
Written assignments Students will demonstrate their mastery of skills learned in this course through 2 written assignments.	65%
Oral presentations Students will give a 3-5 minute oral presentation of their second assignment.	20%
Class participation	15%

TEXTBOOKS/REFERENCES

The course pack has been designed and printed by the Language and Communication Centre.