The aim of this course is to enable 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 practise their own writing skills. The need to consider the context of communication is emphasised as students go through the process of planning, writing, and critically revising their 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.

Learning Objectives

The objectives of this foundation course is to equip students with the necessary skills for reading and thinking critically and writing effectively by:

1. analysing and evaluating academic texts;
2. cultivating 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.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, the students should be able to:

1. produce a short observational research essay;
2. write an audience-specific argumentative essay; and
3. make presentations on an academic topic relevant to your studies.

Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Tutorial topics</th>
<th>Reading/Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>No tutorial</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Observational research writing (I)</td>
<td>Unit 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Observational research writing (II)</td>
<td>Unit 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Academic Communication in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

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 effective academic presentations (I) Unit 9
11 Preparing effective academic presentations (II) Unit 10
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 65%
Students will demonstrate their skills learned in this course through 2 written assignments.

Academic presentations 20%
Students will give a 5 minutes presentation of their second assignment.

Class participation 15%

TEXTBOOKS/REFERENCES

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