LANG5010 Postgraduate English for Science Studies

1. Course Information

1.1 Course description (from PG catalog): This one-credit course teaches common skills postgraduate science students need to write and speak about their research. The course is compulsory for all RPG students of SSCI (for students admitted in 2012/13 and onwards). Students who fail to fulfill the English language requirement of the University are advised to take LANG 5000 before enrolling for this course (for students admitted in 2009/10 and onwards). Graded P or F.

1.2 Students mostly:
- study for a science PhD or are beginning their PhD study at MPhil level
- take the course in their first year but can take it any time before graduation
- originate from Mainland China

1.3 Offering pattern: The course runs in equal numbers of sections in fall and spring semesters through biweekly 90-minute classes

2. Corequisites

Students admitted with any IELTS band below 6 (or equivalent) must also pass LANG5000 before graduation.

3. Exemptions

The course leader may exempt students who meet all or most of the exemption requirements.

4. Course Aims: ILOs from PG catalog:

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:
1. Understand academic, stylistic and rhetorical conventions of spoken and written research in the sciences.
2. Understand the importance of critique, argument and contribution in spoken and written research in the sciences.
3. Develop an engaging and appropriate style of academic writing and speaking suitable for potential audiences.
4. Communicate their own research persuasively to academic and non-specialist audiences by applying this learning.

5. Course Assessment

	Task	Purposes (include ILOs 1-4)
1	**Continuous assessment**: Students complete weekly self-study tasks that follow the course content delivered through blended learning videos.	These assessments: ▪ assess students' understanding of the course content delivered through the blended learning videos ▪ ensure students watch all the blended learning content and apply that learning ▪ allow students to complete the course more flexibly
2	Students write a critical **literature review** of a topic in their field or a general review that includes some critique.	This assignment may help students when they come to write a critical review needed in, for example, the introduction to a journal article, the introduction to their dissertation, or an annual summary of their graduate work

6. Course Content

Course content covers these main areas but excludes some in the Zoom-taught course:
- Speaking and writing requirements for research degree students and beyond
- Critical reading in research reading and writing
- Structures, patterns and rhetoric in research writing and speaking
- Thematic organizations in research speaking and writing
- The roles of argument and storytelling in research writing and speaking
- Using citations effectively to make arguments and tell stories
- Good and bad principles and features in research writing and speaking
- Analyzing and writing research abstracts
- Analyzing and writing introductions and literature reviews
- Analyzing and delivering research presentations