

## **LANG4070 Academic Writing in Context — Global China Studies**

### **1. Course information**

LANG4070 is a one-credit, one-semester course offered to final year of SHSS students from the GCS (Global China Studies) programme who are in the process of conducting their capstone project research or in the final stage of completing their honours thesis.

This is a course with a special delivery mode — a combination of input sessions in the form of lectures in addition to highly individualised assistance provided through consultation sessions for students to address their specific writing needs, as dictated by their choice of topics in a Global China Studies area. Specifically, students attend two lectures totalling 3 hours and three individual consultation sessions totalling 1.5 hours. This course is offered in Fall and Spring semesters.

### **2. Co-requisites**

SHSS4991 Capstone Project (3 credits) and SHSS4992 Honours Thesis (6 credits). The course is open to SHSS students undertaking the Capstone project or Thesis only. The most appropriate time is Fall or Spring Semester Year 4 for students taking SHSS4991 while it is Spring Semester Year 4 for those completing SHSS4992.

### **3. Aims of the course: Intended Learning Outcomes**

Throughout this course, students will be able to receive language support to:

- complete a research paper which demonstrates their:
  - a) good command of the language for academic purposes; and
  - b) critical thinking and original understanding of a research subject
- present their research in an organised and systematic manner;
- compile a literature review which:
  - a) shows that they have enough overall knowledge of a broad field of the selected research;
  - b) leads their readers to better understand developments in that particular research field;
  - c) explains the specific ideas, theories or viewpoints they attempt to borrow from the literature and apply in their projects; and

d) identifies the areas of controversy or gaps in the literature and then seeks to formulate new questions or alternative ideas, theories and explanations for further exploration

- write up a methodology section to explain what their research methodology is and to justify why it is appropriate for their research questions;
- present their analysis and arguments based on the evidence or data collected, and engage their data with specific theories or explanations in developing their arguments; and
- acknowledge the scholarly works quoted, paraphrased and summarized in their research paper by using the referencing style and format appropriate for their discipline.

#### 4. Course assessment

Assessment	Weighting
Interim Report (Typically include Introduction/ background, literature review, preliminary methodology sections)	30%
Complete draft (4000 to 5000 words for capstone paper, or 8000 to 10000 words for thesis)	70%

**Assessment criteria:** Students will be assessed on the adequacy and effectiveness of each part of the report; the coherence of individual paragraphs, parts and the report as a whole; the accuracy and appropriateness of their language.

**Due date:** As the final product of the course is the same as that for the SHSS supervisors, the due date of the final paper is synchronised with that from the SHSS side, which usually falls in Week 15.

#### 5. Course content

Arrangement	Normative time	Coverage or aims
Lecture 1	Week 1	Introducing the course; Briefing of GCS writing guidelines; Setting expectations and explaining requirements of interim report & research paper; and Exploring aims, scope & feasibility of research
Consultation 1	Week 2	Discussing the students' individual choice of topics and formulating the way forward
Consultation 2	Week 7	Having a more focused discussion or addressing remaining concerns subsequent to the written feedback on interim report due in the preceding week
Lecture 2	Week 8	Introducing the common framework and examining the main components of research papers with examples

Consultation 3	Week 14	Having a more focused discussion or addressing remaining concerns subsequent to the written feedback on draft paper due in the preceding week
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Updated on 23 August 2021 by Lee, Pui