

LANG5070 Advanced Critical Writing for Academic Purposes

1. Course descriptions

LANG5070 is a three-credit, one semester academic writing course for students of the MSc in Global China Studies. The course aims to develop students' abilities to produce written texts of a range of genres, appropriate to the academic context, and demonstrate adequate control of syntax, lexis and style.

2. Pre-requisites

This course is open only to students of the MSc in Global China Studies. Students admitted with any IELTS sub-score of 5.5 are required to take the course.

3. Aims of the course

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs):

- a. Write a range of academic texts demonstrating appropriate control of syntax.
- b. Express ideas clearly in spoken texts to an academic audience.
- c. Recognize the essential features of different written genres.
- d. Distinguish facts from opinions and extract salient points from written texts.
- e. Develop written arguments with reference to different sources.
- f. Demonstrate critical awareness of accuracy in written English.

4. Course assessments

Assessments	Weighting	ILOs
Journal article critique – Group work (20 mins)	40%	b, c, d
Literature review – Individual work (1200 words)	45%	a, c, d, e, f
Non-assessed performance – Individual work (class quizzes & discussions on Canvas)	15%	a, e, d

5. Course content

Genre and style: EAP and general English
Vocabulary in academic writing
Vocabulary learning strategies and online resources

Using referencing skills to avoid plagiarism
Integrating the authors' ideas into your own writing
Critical reading – making inferences and making assumptions; facts vs. opinions
What is a journal article critique?
Preparing an oral journal article critique
Writing a journal critique (tone, style, vocabulary)
Group critiques - assessment
Group critiques – assessment
From a critique to a literature review of a research paper
Writing a literature review to propose a research gap, with justifications (argument)
Mock oral defense on research gap
Literature review writing style and tone - peer evaluation