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

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<tr>
<th>Assessments</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>ILOs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Journal article critique</td>
<td>30% (25% teacher, 5% audience)</td>
<td>b, c, d, e</td>
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<tr>
<td>- oral (group)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>- written (individual)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Literature review – Individual work (1200 words)</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>a, c, d, e, f</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-assessed performance – Individual work</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>a, e, d</td>
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<td>(class quizzes &amp; discussions on Canvas)</td>
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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 identifying assumptions; facts vs. opinions

- What is a journal article critique?

- Preparing an oral journal article critique

- Writing a journal article critique (tone, style, vocabulary)

- From a critique to a literature review of a research paper

- Writing a literature review to propose a research gap, with justification (argument)

- Mock oral defence on research gap

- Literature review writing style and tone – peer evaluation