

## LANG1408 – Academic English for Humanities and Social Science Studies (Academic Year – 2024-2025)

### Course Information

LANG 1408, Academic English for Humanities and Social Science Studies is a 3-credit, common-core course taken by humanities and social science students. Over one semester, you will attend three hours of class per week, complete a variety of out-of-class activities and prepare for assessed tasks.

The objective of LANG1408 is to develop your academic literacy skills to communicate effectively within the context of your disciplinary studies and beyond. There is a strong emphasis on research skills for finding and critically evaluating sources for discipline-related writing and speaking tasks. You are expected to be critical readers and writers, synthesizing ideas from different sources when developing a coherent argument. The course also aims to develop your competence in communicating effectively in a wider community beyond the university, developing the ability to collaborate both as a member and leader of a group. Throughout the course you are expected to transfer and adapt knowledge, attitudes and habits for autonomous lifelong learning.

### Pre-requisites and co-requisites.

LANG1402 is a prerequisite.

OR

For students exempt from LANG1402, one of the following is a prerequisite:

- HKDSE English Language Level 5 with all papers at or above Level 4
- IELTS Band 6.5 in overall or Band 6.0 or above in all parts of the test or equivalent

There are no co-requisites.

### Aims of the course:

HKUST sub-competency	Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)	Core Areas for Learning (CAfL)
CM01	a. Use written and spoken language that is accurate, fluent, and contextually appropriate in humanities and social science communication	Written Language (WL) Spoken Language (SL)
CM02	b. Develop ideas clearly and fully  c. Organize ideas coherently, ensuring logical flow and focused development from sentence to text level	Substance (SU) Coherence (CO)
CM03	d. Demonstrate awareness of audience and reader needs and expectations and communicate with them appropriately	Audience Awareness (AA)
CM04	e. Use different modes of communication appropriately to strengthen message delivery	Multimodality (MM)
PD02	f. Demonstrate effective learning skills by using appropriate learning strategies and evaluating progress through reflection and feedback	Being an Effective Learning (EL)

PS03	g. Identify, evaluate, select, critique, integrate, and cite relevant information from discipline-related sources to provide evidence-based arguments	Synthesis (SY)
SR02	h. Work collaboratively in a team to achieve common goals	Team Skills (TS)

### Assessment overview

Graded assessment	Weighting	Description	Core Areas for Learning	Schedule*
Infographic poster presentation	20%	An individual 4-to-5-minute talk live in class which explains your stance towards an aspect of a topic and persuades your audience of its veracity. The talk is supported by an infographic poster.	Spoken Language (SL) Substance (SU) Coherence (CO) Multimodality (MM)	Approx. week 6
Argumentative paper	45%	An individual 1500- word text, expanding on the arguments presented in the infographic presentation and supported by sound research and evidence.	Written Language (WL) Substance (SU) Coherence (CO) Synthesis (SY)	Approx. week 10
Critique forum	25%	A spontaneous 10 to 15-minute group discussion which critically evaluates an academic article. A Q&A session led by the group follows the discussion.	Spoken Language (SL) Synthesis (SY) Coherence (CO) Audience Awareness (AA)	Approx. week 12-13
Self-directed learning	10%	A range of checkpoint tasks to develop relevant skills throughout the course	All core areas for learning. Graded on completion	Throughout the course

\*Exact schedule is posted on course Canvas sites.

### Course delivery and content

LANG 1408 takes an active approach to learning. Every class includes communicative tasks where you share information, solve a problem or discuss ideas. Outside class, you are expected to take a proactive approach to find information and work towards completion of assignments. You are also expected to take responsibility for your own learning by reflecting upon your performance and using self-reflection and feedback from others to improve. The course delivery aims to promote active learning through continuous engagement, feedback and support, and transferability of intended learning outcomes.

LANG1408 is made up of three modules with each focusing on a broad discipline-related theme:

- Module one: introduction to academic literacy for humanities and social science studies
- Module two: communicating arguments through multimodality
- Module three: persuasion in academic writing and speaking