

## Syllabus

### Course description

<b>Course title</b>	Introduction to Academic writing
<b>Course code</b>	27043
<b>Scientific sector</b>	SPS/08
<b>Degree</b>	Bachelor in Economic and Social Sciences
<b>Semester and academic year</b>	2nd semester, 2017/2018
<b>Year</b>	1
<b>Credits</b>	3
<b>Modular</b>	No

<b>Total lecturing hours</b>	36
<b>Total lab hours</b>	--
<b>Total exercise hours</b>	TBA
<b>Attendance</b>	Recommended because a lot of information comes out in class discussion, but not required
<b>Prerequisites</b>	None but students are recommended to have as high a level of English as possible before starting the course and/or to follow English classes at the Language Centre parallel to the course.
<b>Course page</b>	<a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/bachelor-economics-social-sciences/">https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/bachelor-economics-social-sciences/</a>

<b>Specific educational objectives</b>	<p>The course is designed to enable students to acquire academic writing skills. The specific objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to introduce students to Anglo-American academic writing conventions;</li> <li>• to develop students' critical thinking skills (e.g. fact v opinion, authorial stance, main v supporting arguments) and to enable them to identify key information in Economic and Social Sciences-related texts;</li> <li>• to apply these skills in order to gather, report and critique conflicting arguments, to present convincing arguments and standpoints with supporting reasons and exemplification and to present key information given in a text in a coherent summary;</li> <li>• to provide students with the ability to progress to a wider range of written academic assignments on more subject-specific topics as required in the 2nd and 3rd years of their degree course.</li> </ul>
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<b>Lecturers</b>	<p>Síle O'Hora, Office E3.10 <a href="mailto:Sile.Ohora@unibz.it">Sile.Ohora@unibz.it</a> Tel: 0471 013278 <a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/services/language-">https://www.unibz.it/en/services/language-</a></p>
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	<a href="https://www.unibz.it/centre/language-teachers/person/2537-sile-o-hora">centre/language-teachers/person/2537-sile-o-hora</a>
<b>Teaching language</b>	English
<b>Office hours</b>	Cockpit – students' zone – individual timetable Webpage: <a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/timetable/?department=26&amp;degree=12833">https://www.unibz.it/en/timetable/?department=26&amp;degree=12833</a>
<b>Lecturing assistant</b>	--
<b>Teaching assistant</b>	Robert Simon Office E310 <a href="mailto:rsimon@unibz.it">rsimon@unibz.it</a> <a href="https://www.unibz.it/it/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/16918-robert-simon">https://www.unibz.it/it/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/16918-robert-simon</a>
<b>Office hours</b>	Cockpit – students' zone – individual timetable Webpage: <a href="https://www.unibz.it/en/timetable/?department=26&amp;degree=12833">https://www.unibz.it/en/timetable/?department=26&amp;degree=12833</a>
<b>List of topics covered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• introduction to/analysis of expectations of Anglo-American academic writing conventions</li> <li>• types of academic paper</li> <li>• critical thinking</li> <li>• discursive essays: structure, paragraphing, coherence, supporting arguments, exemplification</li> <li>• gathering source material</li> <li>• summarizing and critiquing texts</li> <li>• plagiarism, citing sources and writing a bibliography</li> <li>• academic language work e.g. register and style, lexical chunking, discourse linkers and markers, caution, collocations, synonyms and paraphrasing, compounds</li> </ul>
<b>Teaching format</b>	Frontal lectures, seminar work, class discussion, group and pair work, peer review
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p><u>Knowledge and understanding</u>: acquiring or reinforcing basic knowledge and understanding of academic writing conventions, critical thinking, structure of academic papers, and appropriate register, style and lexis for academic writing</p> <p><u>Applying knowledge and understanding</u>: producing written work that presents logical and well-supported arguments, a convincing stance, and the ability to identify key information and report it in a coherent summary on a range of Economic and Social Sciences-related topics</p> <p><u>Making judgements</u>: showing evidence in written essays of the ability to gather and present clearly a range of arguments on an Economics and Social Sciences-related topic and of applying critical thinking in interpreting them and presenting a convincing and well-argued standpoint; and in written summaries to identify and report key information in a text and to present a reasoned critique of</p>

	<p>the text</p> <p><u>Communication skills</u>: showing the ability in written work to communicate arguments, solutions and viewpoints on Economics and Social Sciences-related topics in an appropriately academic register and style and with awareness of the intended audience</p> <p><u>Learning skills</u>: the course is intended to enable students to apply the skills learnt to more specialist areas of study in their degree program and to work with a degree of autonomy in their future written assignments</p>
<b>Assessment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written coursework 50%: one discursive essay from a range of topics related to Economic and Social Sciences and one summary of a longer text plus critique</li> <li>• Written examination 50%: one short discursive essay IELTS-style, one summary of two short texts, one error detection exercise regarding citing sources</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment language</b>	English
<b>Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Coursework</u>: students are assessed on their ability to analyse both sides of a question, argue a stance coherently, clearly and convincingly, identify key information, summarise it and evaluate the source text; and on their ability to write appropriately in English</li> <li>• <u>Examination</u>: students are assessed on their ability to devise arguments on a range of potential topics in a short time and to present them clearly and coherently; to identify key information and summarise it; to show awareness of citing sources and to write in clear and appropriate English.</li> </ul>
<b>Required readings</b>	<p>Bailey, P (2011) <i>Academic Writing, a handbook for international students</i>, 3rd ed. Oxford: Routledge;</p> <p>Sowton, C (2012) <i>50 Steps to improving your academic writing</i>. Reading: Garnet</p>
<b>Supplementary readings</b>	<p>Students should have access to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a large (not pocket-sized!) monolingual learners dictionary (any large dictionary published by Collins, Macmillan, Oxford, Cambridge or Longman and/or online version)</li> <li>• an advanced grammar (B2+) (any advanced grammar published by Macmillan, Oxford, Cambridge or Longman)</li> </ul>