# Syllabus

## Course description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course title</th>
<th>Introduction to Academic Writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course code</td>
<td>27218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific sector</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree</td>
<td>Bachelor in Economic and Social Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester and academic year</td>
<td>1st semester, a.y. 2020/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credits</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modular</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total lecturing hours</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total lab hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total exercise hours</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>suggested, but not required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisites</td>
<td>Students are recommended to follow English classes at the Language Centre parallel to the course.</td>
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### Specific educational objectives

The course is designed to enable students to acquire academic writing skills. The specific educational objectives are:

- to introduce students to the basic elements of academic writing (argument and discussion, cause and effect, comparison, visual information...)
- to develop students’ academic writing skills (summarising, paraphrasing, organising paragraphs...)
- to apply these skills to report and critique conflicting arguments, to present convincing arguments with supporting reasons and exemplification, and to present key information given in a text in a coherent summary;
- to provide students with the ability to progress to a wider range of written academic assignments.

### Lecturer

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### Scientific sector of

L-LIN/12
the lecturer
Teaching language: English
Office hours
Cockpit – students’ zone – individual timetable
Webpage: https://www.unibz.it/en/timetable/?sourceId=unibz&department=26&degree=13141%2C13182

Lecturing assistant: --
Teaching assistant: TBA
Office hours
Cockpit – students’ zone – individual timetable
Webpage: https://www.unibz.it/en/timetable/?sourceId=unibz&department=26&degree=13141%2C13182

List of topics covered
1. The writing process: finding sources, developing critical approaches, avoiding plagiarism, making notes
2. Academic writing skills: summarising and paraphrasing, references and quotations, organising paragraphs, writing introductions and conclusions, creating cohesion
3. Elements of academic writing: argument and discussion, cause and effect, comparison, examples, generalisations, problems and solutions, visual information
4. Language issues: cohesion, use of articles, numbers, punctuation, active-passive, academic style and vocabulary
5. Writing practice: summaries, paraphrases, opinion essays, problem-solution essays, descriptive essays, reports, reviews

Teaching format
Frontal lectures, seminar work, class discussion, group and pair work

Learning outcomes
Knowledge and understanding: 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

Applying knowledge and understanding: 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

Making judgements: showing evidence of the ability to present a range of arguments on Economics and Social Sciences-related topics and of applying critical thinking in interpreting them and presenting a convincing and well-argued standpoint; to identify and report key information in a text and to present a reasoned critique of the text
Communication skills: showing the ability in written work to communicate arguments, solutions and viewpoints on Economics and Social Sciences-related topics in an appropriate academic register and style and with awareness of the intended audience.

Learning skills: 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 autonomously in their future written assignments.

**Assessment**

Portfolio (50%) and written exam (50%)

The assessment mode is the same for both attending and non-attending students.

The portfolio will have to be handed in at least 3 weeks before the exam date. It will be valid for 1 academic year and cannot be carried over beyond that time-frame.

**Assessment language**

English

**Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks**

Portfolio (50%): two writing tasks of approx. 500 words each

Written exam (50%): one 500-word writing task; two exercises on academic writing skills (summarising and paraphrasing, organising paragraphs, writing introductions and conclusions, creating cohesion).

Marking criteria: content, grammar accuracy, vocabulary accuracy (including specialized language and register), structure and organization, correct referencing, appropriate format/submission (including correct file name according to guidelines)

**Required readings**


- Course slides and other materials on TEAMS and/or OLE

**Supplementary readings**

A monolingual learners’ dictionary


Gillett, *Successful Academic Writing* (Pearson, 2009)

The Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL):

https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/