

Research Seminar

Academic Skills

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Course description

This blended-course is aimed at preparing students for undergraduate study in an English-speaking university. The course equips you for full participation and engagement with your studies by building awareness and understanding of the core values and expectations of academic culture, and providing you with practical strategies to apply to your studies. In this course, you will learn how to develop your Communication Skills to help you achieve success in your university studies. After completing this course, you will be able to:

1. Recognise the importance of communication in communities of practice at university
2. Understand contexts of communication at university and associated expectations
3. Communicate clearly across a variety of different contexts and to a wide range of audiences by adapting communicative styles appropriately
4. Demonstrate, negotiate, and further understanding through spoken, written, visual, and conversational modes
5. Effectively formulate arguments and communicate research findings through the process of researching, composing, and editing
6. Confidently engage in constructive and critical dialogue with respect and professionalism.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course. However, a rigorous work during the course is required.

Grading Policy

The final grade G is calculated based on the results of the final exam test. The test will consist of multiple choice tasks and open questions, based on the information and knowledge from online lectures.

Cheating

This course implements a zero-tolerance policy for all types of cheating including plagiarism, the use of illegal materials at closed-book tests, etc. If a student is caught cheating, he or she immediately gets a 0 for the corresponding assignment. A report will be submitted to the administration of the Program followed by a formal investigation.

Seminar topics

Week 1. Introduction to Communication in Academic Culture

Link to web-resource: <https://www.coursera.org/lecture/communication-skills/welcome-to-the-academic-skills-for-university-success-specialization-TEmoR>

Week 2. Participating in University Discussion Contexts

Link to web-resource: <https://www.coursera.org/lecture/communication-skills/2-1a-introduction-to-rhetorical-situations-Zh1ug>

Week 3. Interpreting, Researching & Planning Written Assignments

Link to web-resource: <https://www.coursera.org/lecture/communication-skills/3-1a-introduction-to-understanding-researching-and-planning-written-assignments-OVSQL>

Week 4. Writing Effective & Concise Written Assignments

Link to web-resource: <https://www.coursera.org/lecture/communication-skills/4-1a-introduction-to-drafting-refining-and-incorporating-visual-aids-in-written-ZXbBg>

Week 5. Giving Persuasive & Engaging Presentations

Link to web-resource: <https://www.coursera.org/lecture/communication-skills/5-1a-introduction-to-academic-presentations-8q8lZ>

Literature and on-line services

Link to the course: <https://www.coursera.org/learn/communication-skills?specialization=academic-skills>