

## Academic Writing in English

**Teacher:** Daniel Martín González

**Duration:** 16 hours

**Sessions:** 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29 and 31 of March, 2022 | 5.30-7.30 pm (CET)

**Classroom:** 4.1.D03, Torres Quevedo Building (Leganés Campus)

**Required level of English:** B2 / C1 (Previous validation from the teacher required)

**Credits:** 2 cross-curricular credits

*A minimum attendance to 6 sessions is required to obtain the credits*

## Objectives

This short course aims to improve the quality of your academic writing in English and the use of fluent, natural, and accurate language. This course's main aims are:

- To learn the complex and advanced grammatical structures and general aspects of academic language.
- To learn the specific features of academic vocabulary.
- To identify and analyze issues and most common errors to avoid and/or self-correct them in your writing.

## Contents

- 1.- Introduction to academic writing: Elements of writing. Emails and letters.
- 2.- Paragraph structure: introduction, main body, and conclusion
- 3.- Defining, comparing, evaluating, and highlighting
- 4.- Figures and tables: describing trends and quantities
- 5.- Coherence and cohesion; punctuation
- 6.- Essay writing types: process, comparison, cause-effect, and argument essays
- 7.- Paraphrasing and avoiding plagiarism: Paraphrasing, summarizing, synthesizing, citing sources
- 8.- The research paper

The focus will be on the correct structure and use of English for different academic purposes. The course aims to analyze common aspects of academic language across all disciplines, therefore for reasons of time, it won't be possible to look in detail at subject-specific language.

## Methodology

- Language activities on the use of academic structures and typically difficult areas for learners at this level.
- Active participation is required in the language activities and writing assignments.
- Individual students' work will be analyzed and edited.
- Independent work offline is mandatory and is aimed at practicing the aspects presented in class

## Course evaluation

- Continuous evaluation based on attendance, participation and work done inside and outside class.
- You must attend 75% of the course for Pass grade.
- The final grade will be based on continuous assessment (50%) and practical assignments (50%).
- You will be given one writing task per week to be handed in each week.
- There will be a final longer writing assignment to be handed in no later than 7 days after the course ends.

## Bibliography and references

### Books:

- Bailey, J. (2018). *Academic Writing: A Handbook for International Students*. Routledge.
- Folse, K. & Pugh, T. (2015). *Great writing 5*. Cengage Learning.
- McCarter, S. & Whitby, N. (2006). *Improve Your IELTS Writing Skills*. Macmillan.
- McCarthy, M. & O'Dell, F. (2008). *Academic Vocabulary in Use*. Cambridge University Press.
- Porter, D. (2008). *Check Your Vocabulary for Academic English*. Macmillan.
- Side, R. & Wellman, G. (2002). *Grammar and Vocabulary for Cambridge Advanced and Proficiency*. Longman.
- Smith-Palinkas, B. & Croghan-Ford, K. (2010). *Reading and writing across the disciplines*. Heinle Cengage Learning.
- Sword, H. (2012). *Stylish academic writing*. Harvard University Press.
- Wallwork, A. (2016). *English for academic research: Writing exercises*. Springer.

### Websites:

- University of Toronto: Writing  
<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/specific-types-of-writing>
- Using English for Academic Purposes  
<http://www.uefap.com/writing/writfram.htm>
- Purdue University: Online Writing Lab  
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/1/2/>
- Monash University: Academic Writing for Undergraduate Students  
<http://www.monash.edu.au/lls/llonline/writing/general/academic/index.xml>