

Course Syllabus

1. Course description

Academic Communications in English: Writing and Presentation is a course focusing on project-based academic writing and oral presentation. The course is designed for developing students' basic skills of academic reading, writing and presentation. Students are required to collaborate and finish series of tasks for a research project and present their work to the class. It is also intended for improving their ability of presentation for seminars and conferences in the academic world.

The process of writing and editing academic research paper on the basis of literature review and research work will be presented. Strategies and skills for oral presentations will be introduced, with a number of examples to illustrate how to start, organize, conclude and deliver a speech most effectively. Cooperation in academics will be manifested and highlighted all through the course. The coursework will include discussions on ethics, writing styles and techniques, evaluation of information resources, a group research paper, and group oral presentations based on the research paper, etc. Development of academic ethics, critical thinking, exploration, cooperation, and responsibility are all emphasized and incorporated in the process of teaching and learning.

2. Teaching methods

We are going to imitate the process of writing for publication and conference presentation through the approach of project-based learning and "learning by doing". We also employ the method of blended learning so that students can learn the knowledge on SPOC, practice in class through discussions and presentations, and apply the knowledge through writing the research paper and giving the conference presentation.

3. Course arrangement

Week	lectures and homework
Week 1	An introduction to the course Presentation (individually): An introduction of yourself and your general research interest for finding your partners. Brainstorming for your topic
	Homework: 1) Search online for the 17 goals of United Nations and find your specific research topic together. 2) Prepare for a presentation of your research topic.
Week 2	Library sources Use of EndNote Plagiarism Presentation (Student 1 for the group): The topic for your research project
	Homework: 1) Decide on your final topic and search for your sources, export them to Endnote. 2) Do plagiarism test and try to get a certificate.
Week 3	Summary and paraphrase
	Homework: Reading preparation: Appendix 3 & 4
Week 4	Academic reading 1 Reading for information Note-taking
	Homework: Read the articles you have searched for your paper, take down notes for your research.
Week 5	Academic reading 2 Reading for classifying ideas
	Homework: Continue reading the articles you have searched for your paper, try to classify them into perspectives. Submit articles you have read with notes (individually).

	Presentation (Student 2 for the group): Summary of your reading
Week 6	Language in writing COCA & Phrasebank
	Homework: Plan for your research. Familiarize yourself with the use of COCA & Phrasebank.
Week 7	Title & Outline
	Homework: Try to figure out a title and work together on the outline for your paper. Prepare for a presentation of your outline / research plan.
Week 8	Abstract Presentation of your outline / research plan (Student 3 for the group)
	Homework: Revise your outline / research plan. Start collecting your data.
Week 9	Introduction
	Homework: Write the introduction.
Week 10	Method and result
	Homework: Collect and analyze your data. Write the methods and results of your paper.
Week 11	Discussion and conclusion; citations and references
	Homework: Write the discussion and conclusion. Add the citations and references. Submit the part of the 1st draft you are responsible for (individually).
Week 12	Presentation lecture
	Homework: Prepare for the presentation. Peer review and revision. Submit the peer review (individually). Combine all parts of the paper and submit the 2nd draft (cooperatively).
Week 13	Teacher feedback 1 (Each group of students meet the teacher at due time in Tencent meeting room)
	Homework: Prepare for the presentation. Revise your research paper.
Week 14	Teacher feedback 2 (Each group of students meet the teacher at due time in Tencent meeting room)
	Homework: Prepare for the presentation. Revise your research paper.
Week 15	Research conference presentation (in the group of 3 students) 1
	Homework: Prepare for the presentation. Revise your research paper.
Week 16	Research conference presentation (in the group of 3 students) 2
	Homework: Submit your final paper and presentation PPT (cooperatively).

Note: Tasks in blue words are presentations in class, tasks in red words need submission.

4. Textbook

Academic Writing and Presentation in English
Authors: ZHANG Li, SHENG Yue
Tsing Hua University Press

《学术英语写作与演讲》
张荔 盛越
清华大学出版社

5. Evaluation**Final 40%+Mid 20%+Process 40%****Final: Research paper 40%****Mid: Presentation 20%****Process: 40%**

Participation and performance in class

10%

SPOC learning

10% (50% videos and exercise + 1 discussion)

Tasks in the process

20%