



## Hunan University ENG 26: Academic Writing

**Professor:** To be announced  
**Total contact hours:** 54 hours  
**Credit:** 4

### ***Course Description***

This course depicts the writing strategies for academic paper. Students will get the tactics to organize sentence structure and paragraph. They will learn how to search reference to sources and form a mindset to develop textual structure, coherence, argument and critical thinking. Meanwhile, academic and scientific conventions will also be taught.

### ***Required Material***

Textbook: *Academic Writing for International Students of Science*

Author: Jane Bottomley

Publisher: Routledge

Publication Date: 2014

Note: Some required readings will be recommended during this course learning.

### ***Grading***

- 5 Essays 50%
- Midterm Exam 20%
- Final Exam 30%

A+ 96-100	A 90-95	A- 85-89
B+ 82-84	B 78-81	B- 75-77
C+ 71-74	C 66-70	C- 62-65
D 60-61	F < 60	

### ***Course Schedule***

The course has 24 class sessions in total. All sessions are 2 hours and 15 minutes in length.

Note: the course outline and required readings are subject to change.

Class 1:

Introduction Chapter



Reading: Chapter 1

Class 2:

Writing to Develop and Communicate Thinking  
Reflecting on Your Current Approach to Writing; Preparing to Write  
Reading: Chapter 2 The Writing Process

Class 3:

Putting down Words on the Page  
The Importance of Redrafting; Focus on Proofreading  
Reading: Chapter 2 The Writing Process

Class 4:

Clarity  
Reading: Chapter 3 Academic Scientific Style  
Essay 1

Class 5:

Sentence Length and Text Organization; Being Concise  
Reading: Chapter 3 Academic Scientific Style

Class 6:

Being Precise; Language and Conventions  
What is Academic Scientific Writing?; Common Features of Academic Scientific Texts  
Reading: Chapter 3 Academic Scientific Style

Class 7:

Subject +Verb Structures; Sentence Types  
Essay 2

Class 8:

Forming Simple Sentences; Compound and Complex Sentences  
Forming Compound Sentences  
Reading: Chapter 4 Sentence Structure 1

Class 9:

Forming Complex Sentences with Subordinating Conjunctions  
Other Complex Sentences; Participle Clauses  
Reading: Chapter 4 Sentence Structure 1

Class 10:

Infinitive Clause of Purpose



that-clauses; Focus on Relative Clauses

Reading: Chapter 4 Sentence Structure 1

Class 11:

Combing Ideas

Reading: Chapter 5 Sentence Structure 2

Essay 3

Class 12:

Prepositional Phrases; Sentence Connectors

Controlling Syntax; Focus on Punctuation

Lists and Parallel Structures

Reading: Chapter 5 Sentence Structure 2

Class 13:

Information Structure

Given Versus New Information; General Versus Specific Information

Cohesive Devices; Focus on Punctuation

Reading: Chapter 6 Paragraph Development: Achieving Flow

Class 14:

Midterm Exam

Class 15:

Using Your Own Words

The Issue of Plagiarism

Good Reasons to Use Your Own Words; Good Reasons not to Use your Own words.

Reading: Chapter 7 Referring to Sources: Paraphrase, Referencing, Criticality and the Issue of Plagiarism

Class 16:

Adopting Good Academic Practice: Referencing and Criticality

Strategies for Paraphrase and Summary; Synthesising Information from Multiple Sources

Reading: Chapter 7 Referring to Sources: Paraphrase, Referencing, Criticality and the Issue of Plagiarism

Class 17:

Using your Reading to Build a Bank of Common Structures and Phrases

Reading: Chapter 7 Referring to Sources: Paraphrase, Referencing, Criticality and the Issue of Plagiarism

Essay 4

Class 18:



## Structure and Coherence

Focus on Introductions and Conclusions; Describing Methodology

Reading: Chapter 8 Textual Development: Structure, Coherence, Argument and Critical Thinking

### Class 19:

Describing and Discussing Results

Maintaining Coherence

Building an Argument

Reading: Chapter 8 Textual Development: Structure, Coherence, Argument and Critical Thinking

### Class 20:

Focus on Defining Terminology

Reading: Chapter 8 Textual Development: Structure, Coherence, Argument and Critical Thinking

Essay 5

### Class 21:

Referencing Conventions; Incorporating Quotation

Tables and Figures; Equations

Reading: Chapter 9 Academic and Scientific Conventions

### Class 22:

Units of Measurement; Acronyms and Abbreviations

Bullet Point and Numbered Lists

UK versus US Spelling; Formatting and Presentation

Reading: Chapter 9 Academic and Scientific Conventions

### Class 23:

UK versus US Spelling

Formatting and Presentation

Reading: Chapter 9 Academic and Scientific Conventions

### Class 24:

Final Exam

## ***Attending Policy***

Regular and prompt attendance is required. Under ordinary circumstances, you may miss two times without penalty. Each absence over this number will lower your course grade by a third of a letter and missing more than five classes may lead to a failing grade in the course. Arriving late and/or leaving before the end of the class period are equivalent to absences.



## ***Policy on “Late Withdrawals”***

In accordance with university policy, appeals for late withdrawal will be approved ONLY in case of medical emergency and similar crises.

## ***Academic Honesty***

Hunan University expects all students to do their own work. Instructors will fail assignments that show evidence of plagiarism or other forms of cheating, and will also report the student's name to the University administration. A student reported to the University for cheating is placed on disciplinary probation; a student reported twice is suspended or expelled.

## ***General Expectations:***

Students are expected to:

- Attend all classes and be responsible for all materials covered in class and otherwise assigned;
- Complete the day's required reading and assignments before class;
- Review the previous day's notes before class and make notes about questions you have about the previous class or the day's reading;
- Participate in class discussions and complete required written work on time;
- Refrain from texting, phoning or engaging in computer activities unrelated to class during the class period;
- While class participation is welcome, even required, you are expected to refrain from private conversations during the class period.

## ***Special Needs or Assistance***

Please contact the Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material. Our goal is to help you learn, not to penalize you for issues which mask your learning.