

WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY



The College

ACADEMIC ENGLISH

700056/900021

2020



UNIT OUTLINE

Last amended:	September 2020
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Unit name	ACADEMIC ENGLISH
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Unit number	700056/900021
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Coordinator	Maria Charalambous
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Session	2020.3
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Handbook summary	This unit is designed to improve English proficiency for overseas and local students who wish to progress to university studies. In particular, the course aims to help students access the conventions of academic English by focusing on attitudes to knowledge, the ways in which ideas are structured and presented and surface language correctness. In addition, the course encourages students to develop strategies to maximise their learning and to reflect on their own learning styles.
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Credit point value	10
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Prerequisite/s	None
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Corequisite/s	None
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Unit incompatible with and not to be counted for credit with	N/A
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Assumed knowledge	None
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Unit level	700056 – Diploma level 900021 – University Foundation Studies
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Attendance requirements	Students are expected to attend at least 80% of classes. Educational research consistently demonstrates that this attendance level is associated with a high likelihood of achieving a passing grade.
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Enrolment restrictions	None
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Learning outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this unit, students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. demonstrate an ability to critically read, analyse and make meaning from academic texts2. identify and summarise the main points of arguments3. locate and cite arguments and evidence using the conventions of academic research4. produce a well-structured, logical, coherent and cohesive response to writing tasks using appropriate academic language structures, and5. work effectively in a small group learning environment
Unit content	<p>In this unit students will learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• critically reading and interpreting academic texts• summarising and paraphrasing arguments and evidence• conducting and presenting the results of academic research• synthesising information from multiple sources• using evidence to support an argument• referencing skills• using cohesive devices in academic writing• using arguments, counter-arguments and refutations in persuasive-analytical essay writing• planning, drafting and re-drafting essays, and• academic language skills
Mode of delivery	<p>This unit consists of six hours of face-to-face teaching per week plus online activities via the unit's vUWS site.</p>
Online learning requirements	<p>None</p>
Essential requirements	<p>Essential text</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The College, <i>Academic English workbook</i>, Western Sydney University The College, Sydney. <p>Further resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please refer to the unit's learning guide for a list of additional readings.

ASSESSMENT ITEMS AND WEIGHTING

Assessment for this unit will be based on the following components:

Task	Weighting	Learning outcomes assessed	Mandatory task
1. Essay a. Research essay plan – 350-450 words (15%) b. Research essay – 1000 words (20%)	35%	1, 2, 3, 4	Yes
2. Research report – 1200 words a. Abstract, introduction, discussion (Individual - 28%) b. Questionnaire, methodology and results (Group - 7%)	35%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Yes
3. End-of-session exam – 2 hours (plus one hour to upload the Response Book via Turnitin)	30%	1, 2, 3, 4	Yes
TOTAL	100%		

For details of assessment due dates, please refer to the learning guide for this unit.

All marks will be determined in accordance with The College [Assessment Policy](#).

All assessment tasks are mandatory unless otherwise specified. Should a student fail to attempt/submit the first formal assessment task in a unit, they will be deemed to be at risk and will need to follow an intervention plan in order not to receive a Fail Non-Submission (FNS) grade. However, failure to attempt/submit all other mandatory assessment tasks will result in an immediate FNS grade for the unit.

In order to transition to university, each course may require a different minimum English result and a minimum GPA [Grade Point Average]. To identify these requirements for each course, please refer to the prospectus: http://www.westernsydney.edu.au/thecollege/media/documents/pdfs/The_College_Prospectus_2016_Edition_2_April.pdf (pp. 40–42) and/or organise a meeting with the First Year Experience Coordinator.