**Unit name**  
SKILLS FOR ARTS

**Unit number**  
900110

**Coordinator**  
Eloise Tognetti

**Session**  
2018.1

**Handbook summary**  
This unit introduces students to the essential academic skills required for success in tertiary studies. It employs an explicit pedagogy approach to teach students how to become independent, active, and reflective learners. The unit also introduces essential research and writing skills specific to the arts and social sciences.

**Credit point value**  
5 credit points

**Prerequisite/s**  
N/A

**Corequisite/s**  
N/A

**Unit incompatible with and not to be counted for credit with**  
N/A

**Assumed knowledge**  
N/A

**Unit level**  
Level Z – non-award preparatory unit

**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.

**Enrolment restrictions**  
Students must be enrolled in a University of Western Sydney The College University Foundations Studies course.

**Learning outcomes**  
On successful completion of this unit, students should be able to:

1. demonstrate an understanding of the ways that learning at a tertiary level differs from primary and secondary level studies, and the requirements for successful study at tertiary institutions
2. identify and access appropriate research and learning resources to advance their knowledge in the arts and social sciences
3. interpret, reflect on, and apply, feedback on assessments and learning
4. use university information technology systems to support learning and assessment, and
5. demonstrate a basic understanding of undergraduate research and communication practices, and academic terminology.
## Unit content

In this unit students will learn about:

- introduction to tertiary study
- strategies for successful tertiary study
- university blended learning technologies
- academic terminology, research resources and practices
- using feedback to improve, and
- “What is critical thinking?”

## Mode of delivery

This unit will consist of two hours of class time and a one hour computer lab each week. In addition, there will be online activities via the unit’s vUWS site.

## Online learning requirements

Access to vUWS

## Essential requirements

**Essential text[s]:**

- Western Sydney University referencing guide available on line: [<http://library.uws.edu.au/citing.php>](http://library.uws.edu.au/citing.php), Western Sydney University, Sydney
ASSESSMENT ITEMS AND WEIGHTING

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Learning outcomes assessed</th>
<th>Mandatory task</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Oral presentation “Who am I?” — 5 minutes</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>1, 4, 5</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Learning journal, consisting of six different tasks</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>2, 3, 4, 5</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Research project consisting of:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Annotated bibliography (10%) — 800 words</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>2, 3, 4, 5</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Essay plan (10%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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.