



University Foundation Studies

LANG0051

**COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR
HEALTH SCIENCE 1**

2022 TERM 3

SUBJECT OUTLINE

Last amended:	September 2022
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Contributors: The Academic English Staff of Western Sydney University The College.

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Subject name	Communication Skills for Health Science 1
Subject number	LANG0051
Coordinator	Gabriela Jakubowicz
Term	2022.3
Handbook summary	This subject is designed to introduce students to academic culture as a culture of critical debate and equip students with the academic literacy skills necessary to perform successfully in this culture. In particular, the subject aims to help students access the conventions of academic English by focussing on attitudes to knowledge, and the ways in which ideas are structured and presented in academic texts and speech. The subject assists students to comprehend academic texts, identify key ideas and concepts, and identify and use the rhetorical moves used in academic texts. It also aims to help students compare and contrast ideas across texts, improve grammatical skills that relate to academic writing, summarise and synthesise information, and understand why, when and how to reference information.
Credit point value	10
Prerequisite/s	N/A
Corequisite/s	N/A
Subject incompatible with and not to be counted for credit with	N/A
Assumed knowledge	N/A
Subject level	University Foundation Studies
Attendance requirements	You 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 Western Sydney University The College, Program 9019.
Learning outcomes	On successful completion of this subject, you should be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. define academic culture and explain the use of evidence to support an argument 2. employ effective listening strategies to identify and report main ideas and supporting evidence 3. utilise appropriate reading strategies to comprehend academic texts produce writing that successfully summarises and paraphrases the work of others

4. demonstrate a command of academic English, including grammar, phrasing, effective sentence structure, spelling and punctuation in a variety of written contexts
 5. apply the conventions of academic presentations in written and oral formats
 6. critically reflect on their own learning, and
 7. reflect on feedback to advance the development of literacy skills.
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Subject content

In this subject, you will learn about:

- Academic culture as a culture of argument
 - Active listening and note-taking skills
 - Reading in an academic culture:
 - the development of ideas
 - the relative importance of ideas
 - identifying arguments
 - Writing in an academic culture:
 - academic language skills and grammar
 - paraphrasing/summarising and synthesising skills
 - comparing and contrasting ideas across multiple texts
 - research and referencing
 - Speaking in an academic culture:
 - the structure of presenting ideas
 - tutorial/presentation skills
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Mode of delivery

This subject consists of two 3-hour tutorials per week, as well as online activities via vUWS.

Online learning requirements

You need to possess basic technical knowledge and have Internet access to complete online activities and assessments.

Essential requirements

Essential text

There is no essential text for this subject.

Recommended texts:

McCormack, R. (2002). *Learning to learn: The next step – teaching adults how to read and write the academic discourse*. Language Australia for Victoria University.

Shields, M. (2010). *Essay writing: A student's guide*. Sage.

ASSESSMENT ITEMS AND WEIGHTING

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

Task	Weighting	Learning outcomes assessed	Mandatory task
1. Summary – listening and summarising task – 300 words	15%	1, 2, 4	No
2. Essay a. Essay plan – 300 words (10%) b. Expository essay – 1000 words (30%)	40%	3, 4, 5	No
3. Oral presentation – 3-5 minutes	20%	6, 7	No
4. Quiz a. Language skills test Part 1 – 1 hour (10%) b. Language skills test Part 2 – 1 hour (15%)	25%	3, 4, 5, 8	No
TOTAL	100%		

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

All marks will be determined in accordance with the [Assessment Policy](#). You are strongly encouraged to attempt/submit all assessment tasks, even if they are not mandatory.

To pass this subject, you must attain a combined overall mark of at least 50%.