

**HW0105**

**Academic Communication in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences**

<b>Study year</b>	: SoH (except CHIN) and SSS Year 1; HaSS Double major (ECMA, ECPP, ECPS, ELAH, PSLM, PSMA) Year 1; MS Year 1 (cohort admitted in AY20)
<b>Academic units</b>	: 2 AUs
<b>Pre-requisite</b>	: Nil
<b>Tutorial hours</b>	: 24 (weekly tutorials of 2 hours)

## CONTENT

The broad aim of this course is to enable Humanities and Social Sciences students to analyze texts, develop compelling research questions, and do research to create their own arguments. The basic premise of the course is that effective writing is contingent on critical thinking, reading, and writing. You will be exposed to a variety of texts to encourage you to critically evaluate and write about issues from multiple perspectives before you develop your own arguments. The need to consider the rhetorical situation and ethical issues is emphasized as you go through the process of planning, writing, and critically revising your own texts based on individual feedback. The course is designed specifically for the needs of NTU students, and many of the texts and study topics have a Singapore focus.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. analyse and evaluate a range of texts;
2. apply concepts of audience, context, purpose and other relevant rhetorical skills to written communication;
3. produce an observational research essay;
4. write an audience-specific argumentative essay;
5. critique peers' writing using concepts learned in this course; and
6. revise and edit their own writing.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

<b>Week</b>	<b>Tutorial topics</b>	<b>Readings/Activities</b>
1	No tutorial	-
2	Essay 1 Introduction	Unit 1 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify the course aims and intended learning objectives;</li> <li>2. Identify features of observational research writing; and</li> <li>3. Evaluate materials and plan a piece of observational research writing.</li> </ol>

Week	Tutorial topics	Readings/Activities
3	What makes a good research question and how to begin research	Unit 2 1. Evaluate the types of questions that you can derive from your observational writing; 2. identify how such questions are essential to motivate your writing and research; 3. Practice searching for secondary sources; 4. Writing Exercise 1 due: description of a place in Singapore that comes to a question, puzzle.
4	Summary, Paraphrase, Quotation, and Citation.	Unit 3 1. select and cite quotations; 2. use texts to respond to your question and illuminate your observational writing. 3. Writing Exercise 2 due: find a text that helps you reflect on that question puzzle
5	Putting texts into conversation and developing an argument	Unit 4 1. Analyze how texts are put into conversation to form an argument; 2. Critique peer's essays with constructive feedback (Peer workshop); 3. Create a revision plan; 4. Conference: Meet with lecturer to read and discuss draft; 5. Draft of Essay 1 Due (1200-1500 words).
6	Revision	Unit 5 1. Recognize how to reveal new perspectives in your writing; 2. Conference: Meet with lecturer to read and discuss draft.
7	Essay 2 Introduction, Argumentative writing	Unit 6 1. Practice analysis of an argumentative text; 2. Locate the problem and argument in a text; 3. Identify logical fallacies in writing; 4. *Final Essay 1 Due (1200-1500 words).
8	A Line of Inquiry	Unit 7 1. Practice forming questions; 2. Practice using ideas of published authors to respond to a question.

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Week	Tutorial topics	Readings/Activities
9	Practical Analysis	Unit 8 1. Collaboratively analyze a chosen essay your own research and argument; 2. Practice forming your own question and doing research; 3. Writing Exercise 1 due: Reverse outline of a chosen primary essay.
10	Doing Research	Unit 9 1. Practice how to connect texts and to use one text as a lens to read another; 2. Writing Exercise 2 due: Pick a secondary text that responds to your question.
11	Transitioning with key terms and creating a complex argument	Unit 10 1. Use key terms to transition and build arguments. 2. Draft of Essay 2 due: (1500 words)
12	Conference: No tutorial	1. Conference: Meet with lecturer to read and discuss draft.
13	Conference: No tutorial	1. Conference: Meet with lecturer to read and discuss draft.
14	-	Final Essay 2 Due on Monday 11:59 pm.

## STUDENT ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed by 100% continuous assessment. The assignments will focus on the course objectives of achieving proficiency in writing academic essays effectively.

### Assessment

**Weighting**

#### Written assignments

**80%**

Students should demonstrate that they can effectively write an observational essay, using a range of descriptive skills, as well as two texts to develop a question and argument that springs from their vivid description. Students should also demonstrate that they can write a targeted argumentative essay, using a range of persuasive and analytical skills, which should include an analysis of a primary text and two ancillary texts to develop an argument.

#### Class participation

**25%**

In all tutorials, students are assessed on the frequency of participation in group discussions as well as the quality of the contributions.

## TEXTBOOKS/REFERENCES

The course pack has been designed by the Language and Communication Centre.