

HW0106
Academic Communication in Chinese Studies I

Study year	: SoH (CHIN) Year 1
Academic units	: 2 AUs (Pass/Fail)
Pre-requisite	: Nil
Tutorial hours	: 24 (weekly tutorials of 2 hours)

CONTENT

The aim of this course is to enable students in the Chinese programme to recognise and use an appropriate style of communication in academic settings broadly related to various fields within the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. The basic premise of the course is that effective writing is contingent on critical thinking, reading and writing. Students will be exposed to a variety of texts to encourage them to critically evaluate and write about issues from multiple perspectives before they develop their own arguments. The need to consider the context of communication is emphasised as students go through the process of planning, writing, and critically revising their 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. produce a short observational research essay;
2. write an audience-specific argumentative essay; and
3. make presentations on an academic topic.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Tutorial topics	Readings/Activities
1	No tutorial	-
2	Observational research writing (I)	Unit 1 1. Identify the course aims and intended learning objectives; 2. Identify features of observational research writing; and 3. Evaluate materials and planning a piece of observational research writing.
3	Observational research writing (II)	Unit 2 1. Evaluate the quality of observational research writing in the academic writing context; and 2. Critique the observational research writing of others and suggesting improvements.

Week	Tutorial topics	Readings/Activities
4	Revising and editing your work	Unit 3 1. Recognise the importance of revising a piece of writing; and 2. Employ basic editing techniques, including formatting, editing, organisation, coherence, correcting language and style issues.
5	Analytical writing	Unit 4 1. Identify and describing the features of analytical writing; and 2. Examine the role of different types of evidence in analytical thinking, applying data collection and personal reflection.
6	Persuasive writing	Unit 5 1. Describing and discussing features of good persuasive writing in different contexts.
7	Persuasion and argumentation in new media	Unit 6 1. Exploring how argumentative and persuasive information is used in new media.
8	Argumentation (I)	Unit 7 1. Identify different stances and positions; and 2. Identifying topics/problems where arguments are employed.
9	Argumentation (II)	Unit 8 1. Identify, discussing and employing features of good argumentative writing.
10	Preparing effective academic presentation (I)	Unit 9 1. Prepare effective presentations.
11	Preparing effective academic presentations (II)	Unit 10 1. Deliver effective academic presentations.
12	In-class presentations	Student presentation 1. Apply communicative skills in the presentation; and 2. Critique each other's presentation skills.

HW0106

Academic Communication in Chinese Studies I

Week	Tutorial topics	Readings/Activities
13	In-class presentations; Course review	Student presentation 1. Apply communicative skills in the presentation; and 2. Critique each other's presentation skills.

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 and presenting arguments effectively.

Assessment	Weighting
Written assignments Students should demonstrate that they can effectively write a short observational essay, using a range of descriptive skills, and that they can write a medium-length, targeted argumentative essay, using a range of persuasive and analytical skills.	65%
Academic presentations Students should demonstrate that they can deliver a short academic presentation on an academic topic broadly relevant to their field of study. The presentations are presented and assessed individually.	20%
Class participation In all tutorials, students are assessed on the frequency of participation in group discussions as well as the quality of the contributions.	15%

TEXTBOOKS/REFERENCES

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