

## **Technical and Scientific English Writing**

Course 11310LANG500006

Professor: George Wang (wangbo928@gmail.com)

Class hours: Wednesday 10:10 - 13:00

### **Core competency indicators**

- \* The ability to communicate and express oneself in English (25%)
- \* The ability to think critically and organize ideas logically in English (25%)
- \* Having the knowledge of English learning strategies and techniques (30%)
- \* The ability to use existing English learning resources and to develop an independent self-learning habit (20%)

### **Course Description**

This course aims to provide graduate students with essential academic and business written communications skills. Specific strategies for composing and revising texts will be introduced to guide students in writing for different academic purposes and audiences. Along with lectures and class discussions, various individual and collaborative tasks will be incorporated into the class to better prepare the students with hands-on practices and greater metacognitive awareness of writing processes.

### **Course Objectives**

1. To increase students' awareness of academic expectations and performance requirements of writing styles and formats.
2. To develop reading skills and strategies for scholarly articles, including developing academic vocabulary, recognizing the structure of different types of texts, and analyzing components of texts to understand how arguments/claims are made and supported and
3. To develop writing skills for logical development and clarity of thought, including improving grammatical and mechanical control, practicing constructive peer editing, and self-correction techniques.

### **Course Requirements**

1. Actively participate in all class activities.
2. Complete and submit all written and non-written tasks on time.
3. A leave request must be sent to the lecturer with a clear explanation of the reason via email before the absence date.

## Required Textbook and references

John Swales and Christine Feak: Academic Writing for Graduate Students: Essential Tasks and Skills. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, ISBN-10: 9780472034758

## Grading

- Attendance (12%)  
Definition of absence:
  1. Late for more than 20 minutes
  2. Three absences without a valid excuse are considered course failure
  3. Valid absence is defined as an absence with proof or evidence, and it should not exceed twice during the semester
- Interactive Class Exercises (40%)  
You are required to participate in many class exercises throughout the semester. Not all exercises will be graded.
- Writing assignments (48%)  
You will be given up to 6 writing assignments. The details of the assignment will be announced in class.

## Tentative Course Schedule

No.	Date	Course content	Assignments
1	09/04	Orientation Unit 1: An Approach to Academic Writing	
2	09/11	Unit 2: General-Specific Texts and Review	
3	09/18	Unit 2: General-Specific Texts and Review	
4	09/25	Unit 3: Problem, Process, and Solution	Assignment 1
5	10/02	Unit 3: Problem, Process, and Solution	
6	10/09	Unit 4: Data Commentary	
7	10/16	Unit 4: Data Commentary	Assignment 2
8	10/23	Unit 5: Writing Summaries	
9	10/30	Unit 5: Writing Summaries	

<b>No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Course content</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
10	11/06	Sports Day, No class	
11	11/13	Unit 6: Writing Critiques	
12	11/20	Unit 6: Writing Critiques	Assignment 3
13	11/27	Unit 7: Constructing a Research Paper I	
14	12/04	Unit 7: Constructing a Research Paper I	
15	12/11	Unit 8: Constructing a Research Paper II	Assignment 4
16	12/18	Unit 8: Constructing a Research Paper II	