

**LEC5104 Academic Writing**

Course Code	LEC5104	Semester	I
Course Title	Academic Writing		
Credits	4	Type	Core

**Course Description**

Academic discourse is part of the speech and writing of an academic. Scholars express their opinions in presentations and conferences using the conventions of academic discourse. Academic writing is an essential part in Higher education. From term papers to dissertations within the classroom and from proposals to projects outside it, an academic's life is linked to writing the ideas in academically accepted format. This enables one to communicate better using the accepted conventions of the register of academic writing. This course is designed as a **skill-enhancing and employability based course** that familiarises the student with the nuances of academic discourse and Academic writing.

**Course Outcome**

By the end of the course students shall be able to

- demonstrate the importance of language use in the academic activities.
- Illustrate how to clearly write arguments and present concepts
- discriminate between the steps of academic writing
- integrate the ways of thinking and using language in academic discourses
- Write proper paragraph, essay, research paper and dissertation

**Course Structure****Module I - Effective Academic Writing:**

- mechanics of writing, purpose of writing, audience/reader, organisation- cohesion and coherence; features of academic writing: complexity, formality, precision, objectivity, explicitness, accuracy and appropriacy, relevance, hedging. note taking, paraphrasing and summarizing (Wallace 2013).

**Module II - Academic Writing: Paragraph**

- structure of a paragraph, parts of a paragraph, identifying and writing topic sentences; development of a paragraph, paragraph support and development, writing concluding sentences, (Wyrick 47-79).
- descriptive paragraphs, opinion paragraphs, comparison/ contrast paragraphs, problem / solution paragraphs. (Wyrick 47-79)

**Module III – Writing a dissertation**

- research methodology (Kothari 1-20; Owens 169-180 in in Eliot and Owens)
- research Problem, survey of literature, hypotheses (Kothari 22-28)
- documentation Format: MLA style (MLA Handbook 8<sup>th</sup> Edition)

**Module IV – Computer and the Internet**

- research techniques and using the libraries (Owens 9-15 in Eliot and Owens)
- using the Internet for Literary Research (Eliot 16-34 in in Eliot and Owens)
- using the resources of Word Processing (MS Word Help)

**Internal Assessment**

Internal assessment for 40 marks will be distributed in several components which will be distributed throughout the semester.

**End Semester Assessment**

The End-Semester Assessment for 60 marks will comprise of:

Objective questions	10 questions of 1 marks each (10 Marks)
Short answer questions:	4 questions of 5 marks each (20 Marks)
Essay questions:	3 questions of 10 marks each (30 marks)

**References**

- Brookbank, E. and Christenberry, H Faye (2019). *MLA Guide to Undergraduate Research in Literature*. MLA.
- Craswell, G. (2004) *Writing for Academic Success: A Postgraduate Guide*. Sage.
- Eliot, Simon and Owens, WR. (2005) *A Handbook to Literary Research*. OU Press.
- Eco, Umberto (1977) *How to Write a Thesis*. MIT Press.
- Griffin, G. (2006). *Research Methods for English Studies*. Edinburgh U Press.
- Kothari, CR and Garg, Gaurav. (2010), *Research methodology: Methods and Testing*. New Age.
- Richards, L. (2005) *Handling Qualitative Data: A Practical Guide*. Sage.
- Sealy, J. (2013). *Writing for media*. In *Guide to effective writing and speaking*. Oxford U Press.
- Swales, JM. And Feak, CB (2000). *English in today's research world: A writing guide*. U of Michigan Press.
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- Wallace. (2013). *Study skills in English: Student book*. Cambridge UP.
- Wallwork. (2013). *English for academic research: Writing exercises*. Springer.
- Wyrick, Jean (2011). *Steps to Writing Well*. 11th Ed. Wadsworth.