

Learning Centre

Timetable

August/September Program 2020

10 August - 12 September 2020

Register online

<http://lc-enrol.sydney.edu.au/lc>

- All workshops will be held online via Zoom.
- There is a limit to the number of places available in each workshop.
- Workshops are open to all enrolled University of Sydney students and are free of charge.
- You must register online at the Learning Centre website:
<http://lc-enrol.sydney.edu.au/lc>
- Learning Centre
Email: learning_centre@sydney.edu.au
Telephone: 9351 3853

ACADEMIC READING AND WRITING SKILLS

Effective Reading and Notetaking (2 hours)

- Thur 13 August 11am-1pm
 - Thur 3 September 9-11am
- Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework.
Bring: example of course reading. Practises strategies for thoughtful note-taking and summarising by identifying structure of text using two different types of text.

Introduction to Critical Reading (2 hours)

- Fri 14 August 1-3pm
 - Mon 17 August 9-11am
 - Wed 9 Sept 3-5pm
- Target group: undergraduates. Bring: example of course reading. Introduces process of critical thinking and reading, practises strategies for evaluating and asking critical questions about readings.

Reading Strategies (2 hours)

- Tue 11 August 9-11am
 - Wed 19 August 12-2pm
 - Tue 1 Sept 3-5pm
- Target group: undergraduates. Practises basic strategies of skimming and scanning.

Critical Reading of a Research Article (2 hours)

- Wed 2 September 2-4pm
 - Fri 11 September 9-11am
- Target group: senior undergraduates (3rd year +), Masters and doctoral students. Bring: journal article from field of study. Covers interpreting and asking critical questions about a text and its subject matter.

Detailed Reading for Academic Writing (3 hours) *non English speaking background postgraduate students*

- Thur 10 September 2-5pm
- Focuses on understanding academic texts packed with complex content and how this information needs to be unpacked in order to write successfully and avoid plagiarism.

Foundations of Grammar (6 hours)

- Tue 11, 18 and 25 August 11am-1pm
- Target group: all students. Bring: sample of own writing. This course looks at four basic areas of English grammar (sentence structure, verb groups, verb tenses and noun groups) from the point of view of the academic reader and writer. It will build your understanding of grammatical terminology and description.

Functional Grammar for Academic Writing (6 hours)

- Tue 11, 18 and 25 August 3-5pm
- Target group: students who have successfully completed "Foundations of Grammar" or a grammar diagnostic test. Bring: piece of your own writing. Builds on the workshop Foundations of Grammar and looks at expressing meaning through grammatical choices in academic writing.

Critical Thinking (2 hours)

- Mon 10 August 9-11am
 - Wed 9 September 12-2pm
- Target group: all students. Bring: a reading (article/book chapter) from a discipline you are studying. Considers what it means to think critically, offers a step-by-step perspective on critical thinking, includes practice in thinking critically about a text in your own discipline.

Writing in an Academic Style (2 hours)

- English speaking background students
 - Mon 10 August 11am-1pm
 - Mon 17 August 9-11am
 - Fri 28 August 9-11am
- Target group: English speaking background students. Bring: draft of current writing. Focuses on some of the characteristics of successful academic writing across all disciplines, e.g. formality, objectivity, conciseness and impersonality.

Writing in an Academic Style (4 hours)

- non English speaking background students
 - Tue 18 and 25 August 9-11am
 - Wed 12 and 19 August 2-4pm
- Target group: non English speaking background students. Bring: draft of current writing. Focuses on some of the characteristics of successful academic writing across all disciplines, e.g. formality, objectivity, conciseness and impersonality.

Clearer Writing (2 hours)

- English speaking background students
 - Thur 3 September 12-2pm
 - Fri 11 Sept 2-4pm
- Target group: English speaking background undergraduate, Masters by coursework students. Bring: draft of current writing. Aims to make explicit the linking structures in English which make writing clear and logical and includes writing practice in using these structures.

Clearer Writing

- non English speaking background students
 - Tue 11, 18, 25 August 1-3pm (6 hours)
 - Sat 12 September 10am-12pm and 1-3pm (4 hours)
- Target group: no English speaking background undergraduate, Masters by coursework students. Bring: draft of current writing. Aims to make explicit the linking structures in English which make writing clear and logical and includes writing practice in using these structures.

Essay Writing (4 sessions x 8 hours)

- Mon 10, 17, 24 and 31 August 2-4pm
 - Thur 13, 20, 27 August and 3 September 2-4pm
 - Fri 14, 21, 28 August and 4 September 2-4pm
 - Saturday 29 August 10am-12pm and 1-3pm and Saturday 5 September 10am-12pm and 1-3pm
- Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework. Covers characteristics of persuasive analytical essays for social science and humanities. Focuses on developing an analytical argument and incorporating evidence.

SHORT ESSAY WRITING WORKSHOPS: These workshops cover the same areas as the twelve hour essay workshop, therefore EITHER enrol in the twelve hour workshop OR in the short workshops below, not both.

Analysing an Assignment Question (2 hours)

- Fri 14 August 9-11am
 - Thur 20 August 12-2pm
 - Wed 26 August 3-5pm
- Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework. Provides strategies for identifying the focus of the question and investigating how the wording of a question affects the structure of the response.

Developing an Argument (2 hours)

- Fri 14 August 11am-1pm
 - Fri 21 August 2-4pm
- Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework. Focuses on developing an argument by synthesising, evaluating and presenting evidence from relevant literature to substantiate a point of view.

Analytical Writing (2 hours)

- Wed 26 August 12-2pm
 - Wed 2 September 9-11am
- Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework. Looks at the differences between analytical and descriptive writing, and the process involved in developing an analytical approach to ideas and information.

Using Evidence in Essays (2 hours)

- Mon 17 August 11am-1pm
 - Mon 24 August 9-11am
 - Mon 7 September 9-11am
- Target group: all students/first year students. Covers evaluating sources of evidence, using evidence critically and to support your argument, synthesising evidence to find patterns and develop your argument and paraphrasing skills.

Planning an Assignment (2 hours)

- Fri 14 August 11am-1pm
 - Thur 20 August 10am-12pm
- Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework. Covers the planning and structure of written assignments.

Introduction to Critical Writing in Essays (2 hours)

- Wed 19 August 2-4pm
 - Fri 4 September 10am-12pm
- Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework. Identifies the types of university assignments that require a critical approach. Covers developing and demonstrating a critical perspective within essays. Includes examples, language features and writing practice.

Proof Reading and Editing Your Own Work (2 hours)

- Mon 7 September 12-2pm
- Thur 10 Sept 12-2pm
- Fri 11 Sept 11am-1pm

Target group: Undergraduate students.

Bring: draft of current writing. Focuses on strategies for proof reading and editing at both paragraph and sentence level. Students will identify and correct errors in their own writing.

Professional Report Writing in the Social Sciences (2 hours)

- Wed 19 August 10am-12pm
- Wed 26 August 2-4pm

Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework.

This workshop focuses on the language resources necessary to develop arguments and critical evaluation in order to (1) respond to a real-life scenario or case study, (2) demonstrate critical analysis of a particular real-world problem, and (3) make recommendations to a course of action by an imagined client, business or government department.

Quoting, Summarising and Paraphrasing Evidence (2 hours)

- Wed 12 August 9-11am
- Mon 24 August 12-2pm
- Thur 27 August 12pm-2pm
- Tue 8 September 3-5pm

Target group: all students. Helps you to identify the differences between quoting and reporting and gives practice in language strategies to help avoid plagiarism.

Language Strategies for Referring to Evidence (2 hours)

- Wed 12 August 3-5pm
- Wed 26 August 11am-1pm

Target group: all students/first year students. Focuses on the range of grammatical structures, reporting verbs and tenses that are available, and presents guidelines for choosing appropriately.

Critical Reflection in the Social and Health Sciences (4 hours)

- Thur 27 August 10am-12pm and 1-3pm
- Tue 8 September 9-11am and 12-2pm

Target group: all students. This workshop will be helpful for students who are required to describe and reflect on a critical incident; critically respond to and reflect on a real-life scenario; or explain a personal or professional experience from a theoretical perspective in order to demonstrate critical reflection and transform disciplinary knowledge in the social and health sciences.

Writing a Critical Review of a Journal Article (2 hours)

- Mon 24 August 3-5pm
- Thur 27 August 10am-12pm

Target group: undergraduates, postgraduate students (coursework/research). Bring (if possible): the article to be critically reviewed. Covers developing and demonstrating a critical perspective in a critical review of a journal article. Includes examples, language features and writing practice.

Writing a Critical Review on a Topic Area (4 hours)

- Wed 19 August 9-11am and 12-2pm
- Mon 31 August 9-11am and 12-2pm

Target group: senior (3rd year plus) undergraduates, postgraduate students (coursework/research).

Covers developing and demonstrating a critical perspective in a more complex critical review of a debate, methodology, theory, topic area, etc. Includes examples, language features and writing practice.

Preparing for Exams (2 hours)

- Mon 7 September 2-4pm
- Thur 10 Sept 9-11am

Target group: undergraduates, Masters by coursework. Covers exam revision schedules and exam performance strategies, including managing time and dealing with exam anxiety.

POSTGRADUATE COURSEWORK

Preparing for Postgraduate Study – Coursework (2 hours)

- Tue 11 August 9-11am

Target group: beginning Masters by coursework students. Covers time management, working in small groups, accessing and managing electronic and print information.

Writing Coursework Assignments (4 hours)

- Mon 10 and Tue 11 August 5-7pm
- Wed 12 August 9-11am and 12-2pm
- Sat 15 August 10am-12pm and 1-3pm
- Mon 24 August 9-11am and 12-2pm

Target group: Masters by coursework students. Bring: a draft of a current assignment. This workshop looks at possible structures of coursework assignments, the component parts and the links between them.

Managing Literature for Coursework (4 hours)

- Wed 12 and Thur 13 August 5-7pm
- Fri 21 August 9-11am and 12-2pm
- Sat 22 August 10am-12pm and 1-3pm
- Tue 1 September 10am-1pm and 2-4pm

Target group: Masters by coursework students. Bring: 2 articles for a current coursework assignment. This workshop discusses how literature from your field can be used to support argument in your coursework assignment and looks at strategies for organising your references.

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH

Writing a Thesis Proposal (2 hours)

- Mon 10 August 9-11am

Target group: Masters by research, doctoral students. Bring: sample proposal from your department (if available). Provides an overview of the proposal with particular emphasis on the introductory stage and the expression of aims, research questions and hypotheses.

Writing a Literature Review (2 hours)

- Wed 26 August 9-11am
- Wed 9 September 10am-12pm

Target group: doctoral and masters by research students. **Required: To attend this workshop you MUST have completed the Learning Centre's online OLE 'Writing a Literature Review' as this 3 hour face to face workshop builds on ideas presented in the OLE.** The aim of this workshop is to clarify, and apply to your writing, strategies for structuring your review, and synthesising and evaluating the literature. Bring: any questions you have arising from the OLE, a draft outline of your literature review chapter/s or sections, preferably a draft of a section of your literature review and 5 research articles. **To locate the OLE component** log into

Canvas with your UniKey and password:
<https://canvas.sydney.edu.au/>

Then follow the links in this order:

- > OLE (on the left hand side bar)
- > Enrol in Units
- > Foundational and Advanced Communication Skills
- > Writing a Literature Review

Writing a Thesis with Publications (2 hours)

- Wed 12 August 1-3pm

Target group: doctoral students. This workshop is based on a study of recent successful theses and will cover: how to write an engaging introduction and a forceful conclusion, avoid duplication in the several literature reviews required, and develop a final overarching argument.

The Process of Getting a Journal Article Published (2 hours)

- Wed 2 September 11am-1pm
- Target group: Masters by research, doctoral students. Bring: style guides of relevant journals and a relevant journal article. Covers issues to do with getting published, such as choosing the journal, authorship, and reviewers' feedback.

Proof Reading and Editing Your Own Work (2 hours)

- Wed 12 August 11am-1pm
- Fri 28 August 12-2pm

Target group: Masters by research, doctoral students. Bring: draft of current writing. Focuses on strategies for proof reading and editing at both paragraph and sentence level. Students will identify and correct errors in their own writing.

OTHER WORKSHOP DATES FOR 2020

Sept/Oct Program (including Exam Preparation)
Monday 14 September - Friday 16 October

Postgraduate Research Program
Monday 26 October - Friday 4 December

LEARNING CENTRE ONLINE CANVAS WORKSHOPS

If you cannot attend workshops online via Zoom, please note that the following workshops are available on the Learning Centre Canvas site.

- Essay Writing
- Foundations of Grammar
- Writing in an Academic Style
- Writing a Literature Review
- Writing a Research Article in the Sciences

<https://canvas.sydney.edu.au/courses/16060>

Learning Centre

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