



COURSE (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course (module) title	Code
Academic Writing (C1) / Akademinis rašymas (C1)	

Teacher(s)	Unit(s)
Co-ordinator: dr. Adam Mastandrea Other(s): lect. Diana Snapkauskait	Vilnius University Faculty of Philology

Cycle of studies	Type of course (module)
First cycle	Elective

Mode of implementation	Period of instruction	Language(s) of instruction
Interactive lectures, practice, group work	Spring	English

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites: None	Co-requisites (if any): None

Course (module) volume in credits	Total student workload	Contact hours	Independent study hours
5	135	48	87

Aim of course (module): competences developed by the study programme			
To develop:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> general competences: developing EFL academic writing skills necessary to participate in academic activities at university. subject competences: using and understanding different types of information sources (academic journals, research data bases, infographics, etc.) in English, outlining an essay, working with, and analysing the reading sources, following APA citation style (7th edition), leading and participating in group discussions in the context of in-group essay drafting and peer-review process. 			

Learning outcomes of the course (module)	Study methods	Assessment methods
Students will acquire knowledge of and skills in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding the structure of an academic essay. Applying research-based evidence to the development of the reasoning line in writing. Appropriately using citation guidelines in writing. Presenting information to small groups and whole class. Participating in group essay-drafting activities and peer-review process. Giving classmates constructive feedback by using a writing rubric. 	In-class writing tutorials; peer-review presentations. Improving academic writing skills through communication with instructor and peers.	Group writing activities. Individual essay writing.

Topics	Contact hours							Independent study time and assignments	
	Lectures	Consultations	Seminars	Practice	Laboratory work	Practice	Total contact hours	Independent work	Assignments
1. Introduction to the course. Overview of the course, aim and objectives.			1				1		
2. Reading as a part of academic writing. Choosing your reading sources and note taking. Making mind maps from reading.			2				2	6	
3. Research-based academic essay. Overviewing the structure, selecting, and narrowing down a topic. Essay outline.			4				4	6	In-class group essay writing: outline
4. Research-based academic essay. Constructing an introduction and a thesis statement. Background reading. Citation styles.			4				4	6	In-class group essay writing: introduction
5. Research-based academic essay. Constructing body paragraphs. Making a research-based argument and persuading with specific examples. APA formatting and style guide.			8				8	16	In-class group essay writing: body paragraphs
6. Research-based academic essay. Constructing a conclusion. Organizing a restatement and discussing future trends.			4				4	5	In-class group essay writing: conclusion
7. Research-based academic essay. Redrafting and editing processes. Spelling, grammar, and punctuation. References.			8				8	16	In-class group essay peer-review presentation
8. Research-based academic essay. Learning journal and reflective writing practices.			16				16	32	Individual essay writing: an individual research-based essay writing on the topic of your choice.
9. Reflection session.			1				1		
Total			48				48	87	
Assessment strategy	Weight, %	Assessment time	Assessment criteria						
Group review presentation Group review of essay writing	20%	Week 3-8	<i>All presentations will be graded using the class writing rubric.</i>						
Essay 1	40%	Week 8-12	<i>Essay assessment will be graded using the class writing rubric.</i>						
Essay 2	40%	Week 16	<i>Pragmatic competence 30%</i> <i>Linguistic competence</i> <i>Structure</i> <i>The use of references</i>						

			<p><i>Grading Scale:</i></p> <p>100 – 95% = 10; 94 – 85% = 9; 84 – 75% = 8; 74 – 65% = 7; 64 – 55% = 6; 54 – 45% = 5; 44 – 35% = 4; 34 – 25% = 3; 24 – 15% = 2; 14 – 5% = 1; 4 – 0% = 0</p>
--	--	--	---

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or a web link
Compulsory reading list				
Kriaučiūnienė, R. Arcimavičienė, L.	2023	<i>English for Academic Purposes and Research (C1)</i>	ISBN: 9786090707906	Vilnius University Press
Street, B. V.	2015	Academic Writing: Theory and Practice.		<i>Journal of Educational Issues, 1(2), 110-116.</i>
Creme, P., & Lea, M.	2008	<i>Writing at university: A guide for students</i>		McGraw-Hill Education (UK)
Hyland, K.	2008	Genre and academic writing in the disciplines		<i>Language Teaching, 41(4), 543-562.</i>
Additional reading list				
McKinley, J.	2015	Critical argument and writer identity: Social constructivism as a theoretical framework for EFL academic writing.		<i>Critical inquiry in language studies, 12(3), 184-207.</i>
Fernsten, L. A., & Reda, M.	2011	Helping students meet the challenges of academic writing.		<i>Teaching in Higher Education, 16(2), 171-182.</i>

2025