

# Communicating in English: Academic Writing

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**During the fall term 2017 the Language Workshop will offer a course in academic writing in English for international students. The course will focus on the basics of writing in an academic context.**

**Course aims:** This course aims to provide students with basic skills of academic writing, including audience awareness, how to structure a text, and how to use secondary sources. Another important aim of the course is to make visible the often implicit and opaque rules and expectations of academic culture, including academic integrity and critical thinking.

At the end of the course, students should be familiar with the characteristics of academic English and be able to produce a text in an independent and academically accepted manner. Students should also be able to provide feedback on fellow students' texts in a lucid and constructive manner, as well as incorporate received feedback when revising their own texts. In addition, students should demonstrate critical thinking skills and be able to handle secondary sources in an academically accepted manner.

**Target group:** This course is primarily intended for international master students who are so-called free movers, and for international PhD students. Students must be registered at Uppsala University in order to take the course. Exchange students may apply for the course but will be placed on a waiting list, and offered a place on the course if there are places vacant at the end of the registration period.

There are no language prerequisites (apart from those necessary to be admitted to the university).

**Course literature:** articles

**Examination:** Each student who fulfills the course requirements will receive a certificate. Please note that no academic credits will be given for this course.

**Course format:** This course consists of 7 meetings (1/every week or every other week (see schedule), in the evening, 90 mins). Attendance is mandatory and students must inform the teacher of any absence in advance. Students who miss more than two meetings will not be able to complete the course.

The first meeting will be on Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 6:15 p.m. (please see attached schedule).

The focus throughout the course will be on practical uses of English and students will be given practical advice on how to improve their English skills.

**Registration:** In order to sign up for this course, send an email to the following address: [johanna.mcelwee@nordiska.uu.se](mailto:johanna.mcelwee@nordiska.uu.se). Please note that participants are signed up on a first come first served basis and that the number of participants is limited. Also, students who take this course cannot take the course Communicating in English: Oral Proficiency during the same term.

When signing up for a course, please submit the following information:

- Name of the course you want to sign up for.
- Your own full name and personal identification number.
- Your main field of study and what degree you are studying for.
- Your native language.
- If you are an exchange student, a freemover, or a PhD student.

**Fee:** There is no fee for this course, but students must be registered at other courses at Uppsala University in order to be eligible.

**Teacher:** Johanna McElwee, [johanna.mcelwee@nordiska.uu.se](mailto:johanna.mcelwee@nordiska.uu.se)

## Schedule

Meeting	Time and Place	Activity	To Prepare for Next Time
1	<p><b>Time:</b> Sept. 12, 6:15-8:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>Room:</b></p>	<p><b>Course Introduction:</b></p> <p>Overview of course and introduction of participants.</p> <p>Lecture: What is academic writing?</p>	
2	<p><b>Time:</b> Sept. 26, 6:15-8:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>Room:</b></p>	<p><b>Critical Thinking and the Critical Review:</b></p> <p>Overview of what critical thinking is and how it can be done.</p>	Select an article that you would like to write a critical review about. Bring the article to class on Feb. 21.
3	<p><b>Time:</b> Oct. 10, 6:15-8:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>Room:</b></p>	<p><b>Structure and the Paragraph:</b></p> <p>Lecture about how to structure a text and how to write a summary.</p>	Write a summary of your article and send it to Johanna no later than Feb. 28.
4	<p><b>Time:</b> Oct. 24, 6:15-8:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>Room:</b></p>	<p><b>The Introduction:</b></p> <p>Lecture about introductions to academic texts.</p>	Write an introduction to your review and revise your summary. Send your text to Johanna no later than Mar. 14.
5	<p><b>Time:</b> Nov. 7, 6:15-8:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>Room:</b></p>	<p><b>The Evaluation:</b></p> <p>Lecture about how to evaluate scholarly texts.</p>	Write the evaluation section of your review. Revise the introduction and the summary. Send your text to Johanna no later than Mar. 28.

6	<p><b>Time:</b> Nov. 21, 6:15-8:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>Room:</b></p>	<p><b>The Evaluation and Academic Integrity:</b></p> <p>How to evaluate scholarly texts. How to use secondary sources and avoid plagiarism</p>	<p>Incorporate at least two secondary sources into your review. Revise the rest of the text. Send your text to Johanna no later than Apr. 11.</p>
7	<p><b>Time:</b> Dec. 5, 6:15-8:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>Room:</b></p>	<p><b>The Conclusion:</b></p> <p>Lecture about conclusions to academic texts.</p> <p>Peer review session.</p>	<p>Write a conclusion to your review. Send your text to Johanna no later than Apr. 25.</p>

Please note that all course meetings take place at the English Park Campus, which is located on Thunbergsvägen 3L. For a map and road directions, visit the website for the Language Workshop: [www.sprakverkstaden.uu.se](http://www.sprakverkstaden.uu.se).