

## 2024 WINTER ACADEMIC WRITING PREMIUM

 Class 1: JANUARY 9<sup>TH</sup> TO FEBRUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2024.

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Instructor** Robert Denner  
**Contact** robdenner@hotmail.com  
**Office** G&R Hub  
**Hours** by appointment

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The goal of this course is to improve & hone the general academic writing ability of the enrolled CNU postgraduate students. The activities for this program will be aimed at refreshing & tweaking grammar, writing styles in academia, and the constant expansion of vocabulary as topics arise. There will also be a focus on using the contemporary lexis and formats used in the spheres of scientific academia. Students will have some input in this class and there may be some individual coaching opportunities.

**MATERIALS**

The instructor will provide all materials for each class. It is required that students have the following items to hand: pens, pencils, erasers, notepads/paper, and maybe a laptop.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

See the evaluation criteria below. However, students must attend a minimum of 80% of e-classes in order to pass.

**EVALUATION**

Attendance 40%	Participation 30%	Assignments/Tasks 30%	Total: 100%
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**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (SUBSEQUENT TO TAILORED NEEDS ASSESSMENT)**

Week 1 Ice breaking; Needs Assessment; Simple Timed Writing; Common Errors + Editing  
 Week 2 Review of academic paragraph structure; sentence types; informal vs formal language.  
 Week 3 Set phrases in academia; use of abbreviations & acronyms; peer editing task  
 Week 4 Sample abstract analysis & correction; use of synonyms; more 'typical' mistakes;  
 3<sup>rd</sup> person writing and punctuation  
 Week 5 Final (major-related) writing tasks; peer edits; revisions; final submissions; Q & A.

2024 WINTER ACADEMIC WRITING PREMIUM  
CLASS 2 – SCIENCE & ENGINEERING  
JANUGARY 9<sup>TH</sup> – FEBRUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2024.

## COURSE SYLLABUS

**Instructor** Philip King  
**Contact** pjkcnu@gmail.com  
**Office** G&R Hub #418 or #213  
**Hours** by appointment

**This class will be face-to-face** but zoom info is for emergencies or possible extra coaching sessions [Zoom Info - ID: 390 244 6311 PW: cnulangpk]

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The goal of this course is to improve & hone the general academic writing ability of the enrolled CNU postgraduate students in the fields of science and engineering. The activities for this program will be aimed at refreshing & tweaking grammar, writing styles and clichés in academia, and the constant expansion of vocabulary as topics arise while maintaining the norms of international academia in the 2020s. There will also be a focus on using the contemporary lexis and formats used in the spheres of scientific academia. Although there is a “taught” element – from previous iterations it has become clear that letting students continue with existing tasks/projects/papers is the best way to learn – issues will be dealt with as they arise or as questions are posed. Furthermore, with the advent of the 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution, inter-disciplinary co-operation is going to be a future demand, thus making contacts and learning terms from other fields will be beneficial; for example, in order for an engineer to design a new polymer for civil construction projects, analysis of plant protein structure may be beneficial (this has in fact been a real case). This fostering of co-operation could stem from simple peer-editing work. Despite this more long-term approach, details of what will be taught in the shorter term and incorporated in this curriculum are specified below in the weekly overview.

### MATERIALS

The instructor will provide all materials and handouts for each class. Despite the face-to-face nature of the program, a laptop or tablet would be beneficial alongside the following prerequisite items: pens, pencils, erasers, notepads/paper, and a good dictionary. Also the ability to submit files in *doc*, *docx*, or *pdf* formats will be required (MS Office alternatives will be offered, e.g. WPS, Libre Office, etc).

### ATTENDANCE POLICY

See the evaluation criteria below. However, students must attend a minimum of 80% of classes in order to pass.

### EVALUATION

Attendance 40%	Participation 30%	Assignments/Tasks 30%	Total: 100%
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### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (SUBSEQUENT TO TAILORED NEEDS ASSESSMENT)

- Week 1 Ice breaking; Needs Assessment via Q&A and a Simple Timed Writing Task; Overview of Common Errors + Methods for Self- and Peer-Editing
- Week 2 Review of academic paragraph structure; sentence types; informal vs formal language; visuals/presentation/formatting; numbering; reporting data correctly.
- Week 3 Set phrases in academia; use of abbreviations & acronyms; peer editing task
- Week 4 Sample abstract analysis & correction; use of synonyms; more 'typical' mistakes; 3<sup>rd</sup> person writing; punctuation; footnotes; quoting; self-editing review guide.
- Weeks 5&6 Final (major-related) writing task; peer edits; revisions; final submissions; Q & A.

Tailored coaching times shall be arranged as the course progresses – the bulk of which will probably be in weeks 3-5.