



UNIVERSIDAD DISTRITAL FRANCISCO JOSÉ DE CALDAS
School of Sciences and Education
MA in Applied Linguistics to TEFL
ACADEMIC WRITING (Optional seminar)
Second semester – 2020-3

COURSE PROFESSOR

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ROOM

DESCRIPTION

The present course aims at equipping teacher students with the tools for supporting the writing of their research reports in a short term; their research articles in middle term and their further publications in a long term such as a book. Along these lines, diverse topics around the mechanics of writing for the research report, events abstracts and the research article for academic journals constitute chief areas of discussion and practice throughout the development of the syllabus. Although there will be different textual samples of expository writing on which students will work, the key one corresponds to their research proposals. Therefore, the majority of classes will require students' research projects ongoing sections. As the construction of a text in all of the possible discursive genres, but especially in the expository one is an everlasting and formative process, this course will promote the peer reading and feedback strategy as a complement to the traditional unidirectional and top down ones.

COURSE GOALS

1. To explore and practice the mechanics of writing underlying the expository text as teacher students' research projects.
2. To reflect upon teachers' roles as critical researchers and writers.
3. To transform the expository text in different types of academic formats for events.
4. To connect writing and reading as interdependent practices within the construction of student teachers' research projects and thesis.

TOPICS

- Research reports and abstracts structures (The expository genre)
- Paragraphs and sentence construction in academic writing
- Ethical issues in academic writing
- Process of writing



- Elements of writing and APA Manual (6TH Ed.).
- Vocabulary for writing

METHODOLOGY

The present course will be developed as a practical workshop informed by different guidelines students need to read at home and practice. Each class through a virtual meeting will be devoted to a particular academic writing topic through co-explanatory teaching strategies and practical activities based on students' papers related to their research proposals. To complement the co-work and peer support or feedback, there is an online platform as the space for broaden possibilities of asynchronous interaction. This digital scenario will complement synchronous interactions.

In relation to students' duties, we can list them as follows:

- Students should attend every session on time.
- Students should read be ready to practice the academic writing item discussed.
- Students should participate in every class workshop proposed.
- Students should listen to and give constructive feedback to each other every session when participating.
- Students should participate in the digital complementary resource as an extension of synchronous class workshops.

ASSESSMENT

Criteria/Activity	Description	Weight/Percentage
Synchronous workshops	Throughout the course, students will regularly develop activities proposed to practice and reflect upon the topics, even from sections of their ongoing written proposals and reports.	35%
Online participation	Student teachers will play the role of proofreaders who cooperate with each other to transform their written texts. This online scenario is also a means that will possibly allow them to strength their social bonds as peers. (Moodle and Google Drive)	35%
Students are expected to submit one section of their research reports or proposals in which they can display the use of the strategies and topic around academic writing. Specific requirements will be provided by the professor. This will also be uploaded to the digital resource. (In process of defining...)		30%



COURSE PLANNER

WEEK/ DATE	TOPIC	KEY ACTIVITIES AND READINGS
1	What's academic and expository writing? Academic reports structure Abstracts structure Paragraphs structure Simple and complex sentences	Presentation of the program First class data collection (by Aldana) No reading assignment for students Workshop 1
2	The writing process: Organizing paragraphs Elements of Writing: Cohesion and coherence	Reading and workshop 2
3	The writing process and strategies: Planning, organizing and writing Finding Key Points and Note-making Elements of Writing: Argument and discussion, comparison	Reading and workshop 3
4	The writing process: Avoiding Plagiarism Combining Sources Elements of Writing: References and quotations I (APA Manual)	Reading and workshop 3
5	The writing process: Summarizing and paraphrasing References and quotations II (APA Manual)	Reading and workshop 4
6 and 7	Punctuation References and quotations III (APA Manual) References list	Reading and workshop 5
8	Style Recalling general APA format guidelines (6 th in contrast to 7 th ed.) Levels of heading Strategies to Improve Writing Style	Reading and workshop 6
9	Capitalization, abbreviations and italics	Reading and workshop 7
10	Visual material: Tables and figures	Reading and workshop 8
11	Writing for publishing: Types of articles Guidelines for reducing Bias Academic events search and proposals submission	Reading and workshop 9



12	Closing: abstracts for academic events and written report or proposals last progress.	Simulated academic events-blind review
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JOURNALS AND DATA BASES

JOURNALS

- Colombian Applied Linguistics Journal
- HOW Journal
- PROFILE
- Teoría y Praxis
- Voces y silencios
- Folios
- Espiral
- Ikala
- Journal of English as an International Language
- Enunciación
- The Modern Language Journal
- Language, Culture and Curriculum

DATA BASES

- MLA International Bibliography ProQuest
- Scopus
- ScienceDirect
- Springer Link
- CENGAGE
- Digitalia Hispánica
- Jstor
- ProQuest
- Scopus
- ScienceDirect
- SpringerLink
- Web of Science

ACADEMIC EVENTS

1. XXVI Symposium on Research in Applied Linguistics (Universidad Distrital FJC)
2. ASOCOPI
3. Encuentro de investigación formativa y semilleros de investigación en lenguas extranjeras (UNIMINUTO), November 5th, 2020.
4. III International Symposium on Research in Foreign Language Teaching: Alternatives in teaching to new realities (SurColombiana), November 26th and 27th.

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Egbert, J. & Sanden, S. (2015). *Writing Education Research: Guidelines for Publishable Scholarship*. Routledge.

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August, 2020