EAP 5845 Academic Writing for International Graduate Students (3 credit hours)

Course Meeting Times: Once a week for 2 hour and 30 minutes.

Objectives/Description

This course is designed to help international graduate students develop the skills they need to become successful writers in their academic careers. The course will cover strategies to organize and develop ideas, navigate word and grammar choices particular to academic written English, avoid plagiarism and properly use citation and reference styles.

After completing this course, students will be able to:

- 1. Analyze field-specific texts to increase the quality of their writing.
- 2. Incorporate academic English vocabulary in their writing.
- 3. Organize their academic writing according to the conventions of their discipline.
- 4. Write appropriately (in terms of style) for an academic audience.
- 5. Effectively paraphrase and summarize information from a source.
- 6. Cite sources appropriately.
- 7. Synthesize information from various sources cohesively.
- 8. Analyze their writing to develop self-editing and proofreading skills.
- 9. Recognize the discourse and formatting patterns that are the norm for their fields.
- 10. Build a sense of ownership for their ideas, their voice, their writing.
- 11. Feel more comfortable and competent in asking for writing feedback from faculty and peers.

During the first part of the semester, we will work together using common sources and assignments. During the last part of the semester, we will work on personal writing projects that have been approved by the instructor. We have flexibility built into our schedule. As the semester progresses, we can add, delete, or modify lecture topics to suit the needs of the class.

Required Resources:

Swales, J. M., & Feak, C. B. (2012). *Academic Writing for Graduate Students: Essential Tasks and Skills*, (3rd ed). Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press. ISBN: 978-0-472-03475-8

***It is also a good idea to bring your laptop or tablet to class for working on writing projects and/or taking notes. A notebook for notes and new vocabulary is recommended as is a folder for handouts.

Course Expectations

Each student is expected to:

- 1. Attend all classes (failure to attend regularly may result in lower score)
- 2. Participate actively and helpfully in class and online.
- 3. Complete/submit assignments by the assigned date.
- 4. Ask for whatever help you need.

Grading/Evaluation

Grade type: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory.
Minimum Passing Score = 70/100 pts.
Satisfactory = 70 - 100 points.
Unsatisfactory = 1 - 69 points

The instructor will determine each student's grade based on:

Summary: 15 pts.
Critique: 15 pts.
Final Paper: 30 pts
Homework: 20 pts.
Participation: 10 pts.
Attendance: 10 pts.

Course Policies:

Major Assignments (summary, critique, final paper):

- A description of each assignment will be posted on Canvas. Directions and examples will be discussed in class.
- All papers should be typed, double-spaced, in 12-pt font, and with 1-inch margins. Please submit originals in class and an electronic copy via email.
- Since learning to revise and proofread your own papers is a large part of this course, you will turn in two drafts of each paper. You will have one week to submit your second draft. Your first draft will be graded based on a rubric so you can know what areas need improvement. The grade can be increased with each revision.
- Students are expected to submit all assignments on time. Late submission of assignments will result in a 10% penalty. If you submit one week late, you will not be given the opportunity to submit a second draft. Your score will be based on the first draft.

Homework:

There will be weekly assignments from the textbook. Homework assignments allow for controlled practice with sentence formation, use of transitions and vocabulary. You are expected to complete this after class and be prepared to discuss it in the next class. In some cases, you may be asked to submit homework to the instructor. Please expect to devote 30-45 minutes to homework completion.

Participation:

Some class activities involve individual, pair or group writing exercises. You are expected participate actively in class and cooperate with classmates. You are also expected to come to class prepared to discuss homework assignments and speak only English in class. Cell phones may be used during class, but should not be distracting to others.