

Advanced Graduate Writers Workshop (ESLC 0298)

Course Description

This 30-hour course is designed to support *graduate students who are actively writing a M.A. thesis or Ph.D. dissertation* (Ph.D. students are prioritized). The course builds on the topics, knowledge and skills addressed in **ESLC 0210 Research Writing for Graduate Students**. Students are *strongly encouraged* to complete ESLC 0210 before applying to take ESLC 0298.

*Registration in ESLC 0298 is not guaranteed. Students must apply and receive approval from the PTAEC Coordinator before registration and payment steps can be completed.

Details here: [ESLC 0298 Application Form](#)

The course is organized as follows: per three-hour class, 2 hours are guided peer-review “workshop” sessions in which students work in small groups/pairs to share and receive constructive feedback on their thesis or dissertation. Self-editing skills are a prominent feature. The remaining 1 hour of class targets advanced writing skills through skills workshops, presentations, class discussions and lectures on topics specific to graduate level writing.

Course Objectives

Students who successfully complete this course will be better prepared to:

- Engage with a writing instructor and fellow graduate writers to increase confidence in the writing process
- Discover and demonstrate techniques for peer review and self-editing written documents
- Develop strategies for overcoming common writing challenges
- Identify how academic texts are structured in terms of functional stages or moves
- Identify the features which characterize academic texts and realize their communicative purposes
- Identify and use academic language on the discourse level

Required Textbook:

Swales, J.M., & Feak, C.B. (2012). *Academic Writing for Graduate Students*. 3rd ed. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

Assignments

Details of all assignments will be provided in class.

Attendance & Letter of Completion

Students will receive a “letter of completion” at the end of this course, providing s/he attends a minimum of 80% of classes (8/10 classes). Please note that there will NOT be a record of this course on your U of M transcript.

Grading

Although homework may be assigned, assignments/presentations will not be formally graded. Instead, you will receive constructive feedback from the instructor and your peers. The emphasis in this course is on student improvement in the language areas and skills covered in class.

What Will I Learn In Class?

Writing Workshop Module

Develop peer and self-editing skills

Provide and receive constructive feedback on written work

Develop written and oral communication skills for providing, explaining and receiving feedback

Language Module

Grammar

Global Errors

Cohesion

“They say / I say”

Hedging

Academic Phrases