



KAUTILYA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

GITAM (Deemed to be University)
Rudraram, Patancheru Mandal
Hyderabad, Telangana 502329

Course Code: PPOL6641	Course Title: Foundations of Academic Writing	
Trimester: 1	Course Type: Core	Credits: 3
Home Program(s): MPP	Batch/Academic Year: 2023-2025	
Course Lead: Dr. Vasudha Katju	Assigned TA/RA: Ms. Rituja Ghosh & Mr. Aryaman Chatterjee	

Course Description

Foundations of Academic Writing will introduce students to the fundamental skills and tools needed for academic writing. Students will learn to write argumentative essays, structured through paragraphs, with a clear acknowledgement of sources. The course will work through the methods and processes of drafting, revising, and rewriting, allowing students to learn about writing as an iterative process where progress is made through feedback and revision. Students will also work through the process of peer review, both to sharpen their critical skills and to be able to receive and work with feedback. The course will also introduce students to the skills of critical reading, as a method to enable the learning of writing.

Learning Objectives

1. Integration of claims and evidence to construct a sound argument
2. Construction of coherent introductory, concluding, and body paragraphs
3. Revision of writing through the provision and integration of feedback
4. Understanding of both the structure and content of texts through critical reading
5. Citation and referencing of sources

Course Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Write a well-crafted argumentative essay through multiple drafts
2. Read and analyze texts
3. Acknowledge sources
4. Offer helpful and substantial feedback to peers

Textbooks and Course Materials

Required Readings (This is for illustrative purposes. All course materials will be provided on Moodle)

Craig Jeffrey, 'The Rise and Resilience of a Rural Middle Class' in *Timepass: Youth, Class and the Politics of Waiting in India*

D Asher Ghertner, *Rule by Aesthetics: World-Class City Making in Delhi*

Gerald Graff and Cathy Berkenstein, *They Say/I Say: The Moves that Matter in Academic Writing*

Ishan Anand and Anjana Thampi, 'Recent Trends in Wealth Inequality in India'

Jyothisna Latha Belliappa, 'She was Very Outgoing: Sexual Harassment and Appropriate Female Behaviour'

Langdon Winner, 'Do Artifacts Have Politics?' in *The Whale and the Reactor: A Search for Limits in an Age of High Technology*

Sarah Zhang, 'The Last Children of Down Syndrome'

Surinder Jodhka, 'Introduction: The Idea of Caste,' in *Caste in Contemporary India*

Course Schedule

Unit I	Sessions: 4	Reading Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction to the Course ● Reading for Content and Function ● Description ● Summary and Analysis 		
Unit II	Sessions : 3	Revision - 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Formatting ● Proofreading 		
Unit III	Sessions: 9	Working with Sources

- Working with a Single Source : Qualitative and Quantitative Data
- Working with multiple sources: Connections
- Building a Review of Literature
- Understanding Genres of Argumentative Writing
- Citations and Referencing
- Preventing Plagiarism

Unit IV	Sessions: 4	Revision 2
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- Working with Feedback
- Peer Review

Unit V	Sessions : 4	Building an Argument
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- Constructing a Narrative
- Introductions
- Conclusions