

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

IMPROVING YOUR ENGLISH: A GUIDE FOR STUDENTS

IF ENGLISH IS YOUR FIRST, ONLY OR MAIN LANGUAGE

THE ACADEMIC WRITING CENTRE

www.wmin.ac.uk/ssh1/page-4401

The Centre aims to help students improve their level of English. It offers specific support to:

- Students who have been to school in the UK
- Students who have been educated in English, in schools in other countries and who have English as their first or second language.

Academic Writing Profile

This is an assessment available to Level 4 students in many schools across the university, usually during induction. It is useful in determining whether students would benefit from an English language module. If you have not been given the chance to have this assessment during induction but feel a module on academic writing would help you, then contact the Academic Writing Centre.

WRITING FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS MODULES

- 1LAN401 (General)
- 1LAN402 (BioSciences)
- LAN403 (Computer Science)

These Level 4 modules aim to help students develop the skill to produce clear written English in a style appropriate for undergraduate academic study. Each module has 15 credits and runs for twelve sessions, usually over one semester but occasionally over two. These are Regent Campus modules, available to all eligible students.

WRITING ADVICE SESSIONS - AVAILABLE AT ALL CAMPUSES

www.wmin.ac.uk/page-20540

Half hour 1:1 advice sessions are available on each main University site. This advice is available to all students and is provided by Royal Literary Fund Fellows, who are professional writers. Appointments are booked by email or via an online booking system - details for each fellow are given on the page linked above.

STUDY SKILLS ADVICE FOR SSHL STUDENTS

www.wmin.ac.uk/ssh1/page-4420

The School of Social Sciences, Languages and Humanities has a Learning Adviser who gives advice and workshops on general study skills to SSHL students.

SELF STUDY RESOURCES

The Academic Writing Centre also provides a range of useful resources. These range from downloadable documents to websites linking to additional resources.

You will find all these resources on the Blackboard site in two sections under the 'Skills Resources' tabs. The sections are titled Referencing and Plagiarism and Academic Writing.

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IF YOU ARE NOT A NATIVE ENGLISH SPEAKER

ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES (EAP) MODULES

www.westminster.ac.uk/schools/humanities/centre-for-english-learning-and-teaching-celt

These modules are aimed at international undergraduate and postgraduate students, who have learnt English as a foreign language.

- EAP modules cover a wide range of academic skills, including writing, research, referencing and oral presentation skills.
- Advice is available from the Centre for English and Language Teaching.

OTHER ENGLISH LANGUAGE COURSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER

- www.westminster.ac.uk/efl

EXTERNAL SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Increase your exposure to English:

- www.bbc.co.uk
- www.guardian.co.uk
- www.independent.co.uk
- www.telegraph.co.uk
- www.timesonline.co.uk

OTHER USEFUL RESOURCES TO IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH

- World Service website
www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish
- British Council
www.learnenglish.org.uk
- Business English
esl.about.com/od/englishforbusinesswork/English_for_Business_Work_and_other_Special_Purposes.htm
- Advanced English
esl.about.com/od/advancedenglish/Learning_English_for_the_Advanced_Level_ESL_EFL_Advanced_English.htm
- 'Improve your writing', a University of Bristol guide
www.bristol.ac.uk/arts/exercises/grammar/grammar_tutorial/index.htm

The Career Development Centre has no affiliation with the organisations and/or schemes listed above and any contact with organisations and schemes should be made directly with the organisations themselves. Information provided is correct at the time of compilation (November 2010).