

Syllabus

Course title: Studies in Social Sciences and Communication II (Communication & Media) <i>Creative Academic Writing</i>				
Course instructor(s), contact details: Patrick Tayler patricktaylor@gmail.com				
Code: M-DM-203-2	Curriculum DMMA 1	Recommended semester: II	Credit: 5	Number of class hours: 2 Student task hours: 10
Related codes:	Type: seminar	Can it be an elective course? no	In case of an elective course what are the specific prerequisites:	
Course connections (prerequisites, parallels): There are no prerequisites. The seminar is independent and not connected to any parallel units.				
Learning outcomes (professional and general competences to be developed): Knowledge: Gaining new theoretical, practical and artistic perspectives on different forms of writing. Collectively investigating an expanded notion of creative writing and academic writing. Utilising the toolkit of distinct areas of writing (literature, popular culture, copywriting, etc.) to enhance art-related projects. Ability: The seminar focuses on skills and abilities connected to art writing, creative writing, academic writing, criticism and collaborative, textual interactions. The investigation of critical editing skills forms a predominant part of the seminar. Attitude: A self-reflective approach to crafting sentences and paragraphs. An open attitude to creating novel meanings through text. Close reading as a way to enhance the precise expression of ideas. Autonomy and responsibility: Understanding writing as a collective platform for participation and engagement. Developing skills in writing to let your voice contribute to local and international discourses. Establishing common notions together.				
Topics and themes to be covered in the course: The seminar acquaints students with the core concepts and conventions of academic writing. To widen our horizons, we will examine and analyse excerpts from criticism, copywriting and creative writing. Our main goal is to map the terrain of subversive, adventurous and off-grid textuality, overcoming gruesome challenges such as writer's block. While the seminar presents several theoretical perspectives, the lessons are based on the practical joy of writing and (close) reading. Some of the topics include: language as raw material, style, eloquence, self-editing and the use and deconstruction of academic conventions.				

Specificities of process organisation / organisation of learning:

Each lesson starts with a presentation on a given topic. A moderated group discussion will follow. In the second half, we will reflect on the finished assignments, examining possible issues and perspectives.

Schedule: Thursdays, 13⁴⁰ – 15⁰⁰

Possible tasks and assignments:

[*hybridformat*] — connecting the toolkit of various zones of textuality in a subversive way (max. 5000 characters)

Learning environment: classroom, M018

Assessment method:

At the end of the seminar, the students will be asked to create a complex textual piece (max. 5000 characters), that will summarise the scope of the questions and issues touched upon during the seminar.

The seminar and the lecture will be assessed together. In order to successfully complete the whole subject, the student must have a satisfactory grade in both course-parts. If the student receives an unsatisfactory grade in any part of does not complete one part, the whole subject must be retaken. The final grade for the subject is determined by the arithmetic average of the course grades.

Recommended literature:

Gilda Williams, *How to Write About Contemporary Art* (London: Thames & Hudson, 2014).

Helen Sword, *Stylish Academic Writing* (Cambridge, Mass. – London, England: Harvard University Press, 2012).

Helen Sword, *Air & Light & Time & Space: How Successful Academics Write* (Cambridge, Mass. – London, England: Harvard University Press, 2017).

Steven Pinker, *The Sense of Style* (New York: Penguin Books, 2015).

Francis-Noël Thomas & Mark Turner, *Clear and Simple as the Truth: Writing Classic Prose* (Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2011).

Other information:

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Recognition of knowledge acquired elsewhere/previously/validation principle:

No exemption from attending and completing the course.

Out-of-class consultation times and location:

You can reach me via email to discuss one-on-one appointments.