

TSL571 Academic Discourse: English in a Global Context

Level: 5

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY 2 YEARS

Synopsis:

TSL 571 Academic Discourse: English in a Global Context provides students with a critical understanding of academic discourse as a type of discourse characterized, in its idealized form, by rational thinking and detached reasoning. The course also examines critically the notion that academic discourse is not only concerned with the dissemination of knowledge, but also with the construction and maintenance of social roles and relationships of academics and students, and their relationships to the global academic community and beyond. The course then explores the privileged status of English as the lingua franca of academia and its impact on the academic practices of ESL/EFL learners. The course ends with a detailed investigation of various types of academic discourses of particular relevance to students.

Topics:

- Academic discourse: Main concepts; local and global academic communities and cultures; academic identity, conformity and power
- The privileged status of English as the lingua franca of academia and its impact on the “internationalization” of higher education
- Textual approaches to the study of academic discourse
- Contextual approaches to the study of academic discourse
- Academic integrity: Plagiarism and collusion; APA convention
- Academic genre: Rhetorical goals and moves
- Computer text corpora of written and spoken academic discourse
- Type of research discourse: The research article
- Type of research discourse: The thesis/dissertation
- Type of research discourse: The conference presentation
- Type of instructional discourse: The university lecture and seminar
- Type of instructional discourse: Textbooks and e-learning materials

Textbooks:

Academic Discourse. 2013 Flowerdew, John Routledge
ISBN-13: 9781317875741

Academic Discourse: English in a Global Context Ken Hyland Continuum International Publishing
ISBN-13: 9780826498045

Learning Outcome:

- Discuss critically the main concepts in the study of academic discourse
- Examine critically the status of English as the lingua franca of academia and its impact on the “internationalization” of higher education
- Distinguish between different approaches to the study of academic discourse
- Evaluate different types of instructional discourses in terms of their alignment to conventions of academic discourse
- Critique different types of research discourses in terms of their alignment to conventions of academic discourse
- Prepare a research discourse document in accordance with prescribed academic discourse practices

Assessment Strategies - Regular Semester (Evening Class):

Components	Description	Weightage Allocation (%)
Overall Continuous Assessment	TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 1	40
	PARTICIPATION 1	10
Overall Examinable Components	ECA	50
Total		100

*The information listed is subject to review and change.