

**UM-SJTU Joint Institute
Vy100 - Academic Writing**

Syllabus for Fall 2014

**Instructor: Dr. Amalia Jiva
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Office Hours: Friday 1:00pm-3:00pm; by appointment**

**Teaching Assistant: Yin Leyi
Email: 498937049@qq.com
Office Hours: Wed 8:00pm-10:00pm
Location: E-reading Room, JI Bldg., 2nd floor**

Course Description:

This academic writing course is designed to offer you opportunities to engage thoughtfully with texts from different genres and disciplines and showcase your participation by producing your own academic texts.

The course readings you will interact with and respond to revolve around cross-cultural issues of identity, its sources and manifestations in a cosmopolitan context. To contemplate our ability to interact with others in a global world, while at the same time being ‘ourselves,’ we will read texts from both Western and Chinese sources in various genres including philosophical excerpts, creative non-fiction, literature, and academic articles.

Classes will entail a combination of short lectures, close-readings, group discussions, peer-reviews, in-class writing, and exercises in which you can practice and improve your academic reading and writing skills.

Course Aims:

- **Understand the complexities of a text**
- **Form critical thinking and respectful expression of conflicting opinions**
- **Acknowledge properly sources and ideas in academic writing**
- **Develop fluent argumentative writing skills for an intermediate academic level**
- **Compare and contrast ideas persuasively**

Student Outcomes:

At the end of Vy100, students should be able to

- **Analyze and synthesize complex texts from various genre**
- **Craft clear arguments/counterarguments**
- **Persuade readers of their critical positions**
- **Use appropriate vocabulary to discuss contemporary cultural themes and issues**
- **Compare and contrast ideas logically and articulately**
- **Use basic and intermediate levels of grammar effectively in academic writing**
- **Understand the ethical and conventional rules of academic writing**
- **Write an argumentative, evidence-based college essay**
- **Write a compare-contrast essay**

Textbooks and Course Materials

- **The Everyday Writer, 5th Edition by Andrea A. Lunsford (Bedford St. Martin's)**
- **Materials provided by instructor on Sakai - Readings To Be Announced**

Recommended sources

Students should regularly consult:

- **A good monolingual English dictionary. I recommend the Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English: <http://www.ldoceonline.com/>**
- **Other online dictionaries are available for free and provide audio pronunciation, for ex.: [http:// www.merriam-webster.com](http://www.merriam-webster.com) and <http://www.macmillandictionary.com>**
- **Purdue University's Writing Center, which offers many useful handouts on academic writing topics: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>**
- **Other sources indicated by your instructor throughout the semester.**

ASSIGNMENTS, LENGTH AND VALUE

Participation (including written homework, short presentations, and participation in class discussion and group work) 15%

Quizzes 15%

Summary - 1-2 pages - 10%

Critical Summary - 1-2 pages 15%

Thesis-Driven Essay - 3-4 pages - 20%

Comparison-Contrast Essay - 4 pages - 25%

Final Average and Course Grade

98% and above A+	93% and above A
90% and above A-	87% and above B+
83% and above B	80% and above B-
77% and above C+	73% and above C
70% and above C-	60% and above D
59.9% and below F	

Course Policies and Expectations

Handing in Assignments:

Please hand in both an electronic copy and printed copy of your written work. The electronic version is due on Sakai before the beginning of the class period in which the work is due. Please hand in the paper copy at the beginning of the period in which the work is due.

Printed papers must be STAPLED

Format:

Use MLA, APA, Chicago, or another approved format for all assignments. (This will be discussed in class). Please double-space and use 12 point Times New Roman font.

Late penalties:

Assignments will not be accepted for marking one week after the due date. Penalty for shorter delay is up to a letter grade per day. Extensions will only be given in exceptional circumstances, such as personal illness or family emergency, with proper documentation.

Expectations:

Students are expected to attend classes and participate, be polite, help classmates when needed, manage their schedule, speak English during class time and office hours with instructor and TAs, avoid plagiarism. Students must turn off electronic devices in class and concentrate on the lecture/discussion.

Attendance:

Attendance is required. Please come to each class, and please come to your assigned section. Failure to attend class will affect your grade. Students who miss over 1/3 of classes cannot pass.

To quote JI policy on leave/missed classes:

“An advance request for leave of absence is required if the student cannot attend the class due to illness or other reasons. Absence without approval will be regarded as skipping classes.”

“A note that a student visited a medical facility is not sufficient excuse for missing an assignment or an exam. The note must specifically indicate that the student was incapable of completing an assignment or taking an exam due to medical problems and that this condition was sudden enough that it was impractical to contact the instructor in advance.”

Students will receive a zero for any in-class work or quizzes they miss due to unexcused absences. Please note that even with an excused absence, you are still required to hand in any work that was assigned in that class on time.

Honor Code and Plagiarism

Students MUST refer to the 2014 JI Undergraduate Student Handbook, Section 9, for a description of what acceptable academic conduct is. Section 9 of the Handbook contains the Honor Code. In particular for this course,

- “it is dishonorable for students to receive credit for work that is not the result of their own efforts” (2014 USH, 32).
- “It is a violation of the Honor Code for students to submit, as their own, work that is not the result of their own labor and thoughts. This applies, in particular, to ideas, expressions or work obtained from other students as well as from books, the internet, and other sources. The failure to properly credit ideas, expressions or work from others is considered plagiarism. Plagiarism is taken extremely seriously at JI. A student is required to follow the rules of citation and attribution as set down by the instructor.” (2014 USH, 33).

Please read the following document carefully: http://umji.sjtu.edu.cn/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Undergrad-Student-Handbook_2014.pdf

Week	Tuesday 2:00pm Bldg E-1 Room 201 Dong Zhong Yuan	Wednesday 12:00pm Bldg. E-1 Room 201 Dong Zhong Yuan	Friday 10:am Bldg. E-1 Room 202 Dong Zhong Yuan
Week 1 Sept. 17, & 19		Introduction to the Course	Diagnostic Test 'Top 20' Concerns East Meets West
Week 2 Sept. 23 & 26	No Class	No Class Even Week	Summary Guidelines and Practice Active Reading Academic Register
Week 3	Language that builds common ground Peer review practice	NO Class Holiday	NO Class Holiday
Week 4 Oct. 10	NO Class Holiday	No Class Even Week	Summary Draft Due
Week 5 Oct. 14, 15, & 17	Summary Peer Review	Paraphrasing and Avoiding Plagiarism Practice Paragraph Development Essay Development	Summary Due Arguments and Evidence Buildings Coherence
Week 6 Oct. 21 & 24	MLA and Quotation Marks Rhetorical Situation	No Class Even Week	Critical Summary Guidelines and Practice
Week 7 Oct. 28, 29, & 31	Critical Summary Peer Review	Logical Fallacies	Logical Fallacies Practice
Week 8 Nov. 3 & Nov. 7	Comma Splices; Fused Sentences; Fragments	No Class Even Week	Critical Summary Due
Week 9 Nov. 11, 12, & 14	Integrating Quotes Thesis Sentence Writing as a Process	Argument Essay Guidelines Thesis Workshop	Targeted Grammar Practice Editing and Proofreading
Week 10 Nov. 18 & Nov. 21	Argument Essay Peer Review	No Class Even Week	Conferences

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Week 11 Nov. 25, 26, & 28	Conferences	Art of Revision	Argument Essay Due
Week 12 Dec. 2 & 5	Comparison and Contrast Guidelines	No Class Even Week	Comparison and Contrast Practice
Week 13 Dec. 9, 10, & 12	Comparison and Contrast Peer Review	Conferences	LAST CLASS Wrap Up
Week 14	Comparison and Contrast Due		