

LING 5370 CRN 27045
Advanced Academic Writing for Linguistics
Course Syllabus, Spring 2023
Department of Languages and Linguistics, UTEP

COURSE INFORMATION

Days: Thursdays **Time:** 6:00-8:50 PM
Location: LART 207

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Sabrina Mossman
Office: LART 214
Email: samossman@utep.edu
Office Hours:

in person--TR 1:30-2:30 pm or by appointment / Online by appointment

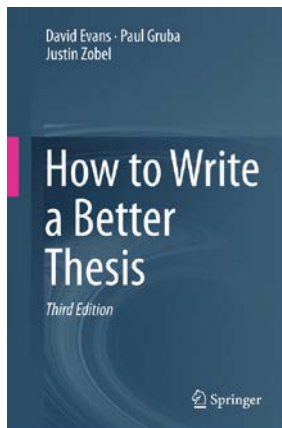
Course Description

Students will read and analyze a variety of academic publications on various topics in linguistics to familiarize them with the critical thinking skills and writing style necessary for writing an extended paper or thesis. Students will engage in different types of academic writing, including summarizing, synthesizing information from a variety of sources, creating an annotated bibliography, and critiquing a research article. Students will become familiarized with the organization and structure of a research paper in linguistics, and they will learn key elements of scholarly writing. The course will culminate in a writing project tailored to the individual student's needs.

Materials Requirements

Textbook:

Evans, D., Gruba, P., & Zobel, J. (2011). *How to write a better thesis*. Melbourne University. Publishing.



A variety of readings will be provided for you on Blackboard.

Technology Requirements

Course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system (LMS). Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome are the most supported browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications with the LMS. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser. If these do not work or for other problems, contact the Utep help desk. Helpdesk@utep.edu

You will need to have or have access to a computer/laptop, a scanner or camera, a webcam, and a microphone. You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office, Adobe, and something that allows you to view mp4 videos.

Course Evaluation

Class activities	10
Literature Analysis	10
Writing Assignments	40
<i>Summary</i>	10
<i>Article Critique</i>	10
<i>Topic Synthesis</i>	10
<i>Annotated Bibliography</i>	10
Final Paper	<u>40</u>
Total	100

Class Activities

Every week we will engage in class activities including practice writing exercises, discussion of the literature among other activities. Students must attend class and participate in these activities. On occasion we will be meeting one-on-one instead to gauge your progress in the course.

Literature Analysis

Most weeks we will read journal articles primarily dealing with second language acquisition, though some will relate to other topics. Most of the articles will be empirical studies in which data have been collected, analyzed, summarized and discussed. We will examine the content and the structure of these articles closely, analyzing the organization and structure of the text and the means of presenting information.

Writing Assignments

You will complete several written assignments designed to help you practice drawing from a variety of sources to synthesize, compare, and contrast information. Ultimately these skills will be useful for effectively writing a literature review for a research paper.

Summary

You will write a summary of an article, identifying the important points and conveying the most relevant information from the article. This assignment is designed to help you summarize information within a literature review as well as compose an abstract.

Article Critique

You will select an article from the collection provided on Blackboard and write a 3-4 page critical commentary on the reading. Summarize the article, laying out its main contributions to the field and the main things it seeks to accomplish. You will also overtly identify two (or more) questions that you think the paper raises but does not address (i.e. these are *your* questions, not the author's). These will generally be questions you have about the methodology used; assumptions the author made or her interpretation of findings; or questions that you think should guide future research on the topic. More specific instructions will be provided on Blackboard.

Topic synthesis

You will select three related articles from the collection provided on Blackboard and write a 3-4 page synthesis of the information in the articles. This should not be a simple list of summaries. You should draw key information from each of the papers and combine this information to present an informed discussion about the topic. More specific instructions will be provided on Blackboard.

Annotated Bibliography

You will create an annotated bibliography for your final project in this class. The nature and length of your bibliography will depend on the paper you are writing. This will be determined through individual meetings with me.

Final Paper

The course will culminate in a final paper. This may be a section of a larger work you are currently working on, a research proposal, or something else, depending on where you are in the program you are enrolled in. The specifics will be determined through individual meetings with me.

Grading System

As stated in the UTEP catalog, grades for undergraduate courses are given according to the following system:

A	Excellent	Grades are calculated as follows:	
B	Good		A= 90-100 points
C	Average		B= 80-89 points
D	Below average but passing		C= 70-79 points
F	Failure		D= 60-69 points
		F= 0-59 points	

Course Policies and Requirements

- Because this is a once a week class, attendance is important because missing a day is the same as missing a week.

- Students should read all assigned readings carefully according to the schedule. This will enable you to complete the related assignments.
- Students should be prepared to accommodate the necessary study time in their schedule to read, review, write, and study the material, as well as to work on assignments and course projects.
- All assignments and projects should be completed when they are due.
- Students should make sure they have access to the course's Blackboard shell in order to receive class announcements, access class materials, post papers and reports, etc.
- I am including the COVID-19 statement below in accordance with the requirements stipulated during the pandemic.

COVID-19 PRECAUTION STATEMENT

Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Student Health Center is equipped to provide COVID-19 testing.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org.

COVID-19 ACCOMMODATIONS

Students are not permitted on campus when they have a positive COVID-19 test, exposure or symptoms. If you are not permitted on campus, you should contact me as soon as possible so we can arrange necessary and appropriate accommodations.

HOUSEKEEPING RULES

- Many of the instructional activities of this course will be conducted on Blackboard, which you have now accessed. You will find important information and materials for the course on Blackboard, as well as course announcements, which are constantly updated. Students are required to check in on Blackboard daily.
- In addition, students may receive e-mail messages (reminders, queries, etc.) at their address of record and are responsible for monitoring and responding to these.
- Stable internet connectivity is required when In the event you do not have access to a stable connection, you may take the exam at the UTEP library

COMMUNICATING EFFECTIVELY WITH YOUR PROFESSORS:

I am including a link to some excellent guidelines on how to be professional when you send an email to any of your professors.

<https://www.math.uh.edu/~tomforde/Email-Etiquette.html>

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY

Incomplete grades may be requested only in exceptional circumstances. Talk to me immediately if you believe an incomplete is warranted. If granted, we will establish a contract of work to be completed with deadlines.

ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the [UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services \(CASS\)](#). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, or email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the [CASS portal](#).

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution \(OSCCR\)](#) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

PLAGIARISM DETECTING SOFTWARE

Some of your course work and assessments may submitted to SafeAssign, a plagiarism detecting software. SafeAssign is used review assignment submissions for originality and will help you learn how to properly attribute sources rather than paraphrase. NOTE: The UTEP Graduate School is now requiring that all theses undergo a plagiarism check before being accepted.

Course Evaluation

Student evaluations provide important feedback to the instructor and they are essential for measuring teaching effectiveness in the profession. Chairs and Deans see course evaluations every year in reviewing faculty performance, and committees at all levels of the university rely on evaluations in making decisions. Before the last class session, you will be asked to complete University Course Evaluation Forms.

Important Note: The syllabus provides a general plan for the course; modifications are often necessary and may be implemented as a result of students' needs, course development, and "classroom" life in general.