

Macao Polytechnic Institute

School of Languages and Translation

Bachelor of Arts in International Chinese Language Education

(Applicable to Non-native Speakers of Chinese)

Module Outline

Learning module	English Writing I	Class Code	ENGL3113		
Pre-requisite(s)	Nil				
Language of Instruction	English			Credit	2
Lecture Hours	30 hrs	Lab/Practice Hours	0 hrs	Total Hours	30 hrs

Description

This module is designed to improve students' writing skills in English, by focusing on reflective and expository writing. It consists of two broad parts: firstly, the fundamental knowledge and understanding of written language (as opposed to spoken language), and secondly writing skills training in prewriting and drafting. The students are also instructed in critical reading skills and in using course readings to analyze specific writing techniques and strategies that can be used to improve their own writing.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this semester, students should be able to demonstrate proficiency in the following aspects:

1. Compose essays demonstrating proficiency in developing and organizing ideas, using language effectively;
2. Demonstrate continued use and development of effective writing strategies in prewriting, and drafting;
3. Write an appropriate introduction, thesis, development and conclusion in an essay.

Content

Topic 1. Introduction

The students are to know the instructional objectives or goals, contents and schedules, teaching methods and materials of this module.

Topic 2. Written language vs. spoken language

The students learn about the stylistic features of written texts, in lexis, grammar, textural structure, format, etc., in comparison with those of the spoken language.

Topic 3. Exemplary writings of exposition types

The students are exposed to the masterpiece writings of exposition types, including narrative, descriptive, reflective, and analytical essays, to master the key features of each type.

Topic 4. Prewriting – background information

The students learn to examine audiences, purposes and requirements for writing.

Topic 5. Prewriting – research

The students learn to find, evaluate and use sources appropriately.

Topic 6. Prewriting – outlining

The students learn to prepare a writing plan or outline.

Topic 7. Drafting – paragraphs

The students practice on thesis statement and idea generation strategies and techniques, to produce an introduction, thesis, development or conclusion.

Quiz

Teaching Method

Lectures, in-class exercises & discussions, video-cued writing exercises, analysis of sample writings, self-review and peer-review, take-home assignments, quiz

Attendance

Attendance requirements are governed by the “Academic Regulations Governing Bachelor’s Degree Programmes of Macao Polytechnic Institute”.

Assessment

This course is graded on a 100 point scale, with 100 being the highest possible score and 50 the pass score. The breakup of the marks is as follows:

	Item	Description	Percentage
1.	Participation	Attendance and performance	10%
2.	Assignments	Writings	30%
3	Quiz		20%
4.	Final exam	Writing proficiency	40%
		Total Percentage:	100 %

Cheating Warning: Plagiarism is an act of fraud. It is using others’ ideas and words without clearly acknowledging the source of that information. A zero mark will normally be given to that piece of work if a student copies someone else’s work or lets

someone copy his/her own work.

Teaching Materials

Textbook

On-the-spot handouts

References

1. McLean, Scott. *Writing for Success*. Irvington: Flat World Knowledge, 2011.
2. Strunk, William. *The Elements of Writing*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2018.
3. Zinsser, William. *On Writing Well*. New York: Harper Collins Publisher, 2016.