

## EN8007 Managing Thesis-Writing

### Part I

Course Duration:	13 weeks (1 semester)
Credit Units:	3
Level:	R8
Teaching Pattern:	Lecture/tutorial
Medium of Instruction:	English
Prerequisites:	EN8006 Literature Review for Research Writing
Precursors:	Nil
Equivalent Courses:	Nil
Exclusive Courses:	Nil

### Part II

#### Course Aims:

This course aims to help research degree students to cope with demands imposed on them by the tasks associated with thesis writing during the final years. It will also help students develop strategies and skills that can be transferred to other related scholarly writing tasks such as writing for publishing.

#### Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

No.	CILOs	Weighting
1.	identify and apply effective strategies to manage thesis-writing	5%
2.	describe different possible formats of the thesis and choose one for their own theses	10%
3.	describe various linguistic/non-linguistic resources, generic conventions and rhetorical strategies needed in various sections of the thesis; apply the above knowledge when writing various sections of their theses	50%
4.	identify and correct various language errors committed in their writing	20%
5.	use on-line resources needed for self-editing; developing their scholarly literacy skills	15%

#### Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

CILO No	TLAs	Hours/week
CILO 1	TA: interactive lecturing LA: guided group discussions short reading tasks	N/A
CILOs 2 & 3	TA: Interactive lecturing LAs: guided discussions guided analyses of sample theses provided by the instructor guided analyses of discipline-/field-/topic-specific samples of theses collected by students guided writing tasks language exercises	N/A
CILO 4	TA: interactive lecturing LAs: guided group discussions guided analyses of samples of problematic theses provided by the instructor peer/self-review of own draft theses revision of own draft theses	N/A
CILO 5	TA: interactive lecturing LAs: guided group discussions short practice tasks	N/A

#### Assessment Tasks/Activities

ILO No	Type of assessment tasks/activities	Weighting)	Remarks
CILOs 1-3	Producing one part of the thesis Students	65%	Nil

	are required to produce one section of their own theses (with the exception of the introduction or the literature review that has already been assessed in EN8006 Literature Review for Research Writing; see Form 2B of the course which is supposed to be a prerequisite for the current one).		
CILO 4	Editing common language errors Students are required to take a quiz on common language errors	20%	Nil
CILO 5	Accessing on-line resources Students will be given a short editing or self-learning task that requires the use of a selected type of on-line resource.	15%	Nil

### Grading of Student Achievement:

Grading pattern: Standard (A+, A, A-.....F). Grading is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities.

### Part III

#### Keyword Syllabus:

Managing thesis-writing, thesis formats, creating niches for your thesis work, structural patterns, the CARS model, hedgers and boosters, making claims and counter-claims, rhetorical strategies, the knowledge-display discourse, the transformation discourse, using concordancing tools

#### Recommended Readings:

Casanave, C. & Li, X. (eds.) (2008). [Learning the Literacy Practices of Graduate School: Insiders' Reflections on Academic Enculturation](#). U.S.: University of Michigan.

Higgs, J. (1998) (ed.) Writing qualitative research. Sydney: Hampden Press.

Hewings, M. (1993). The end! How to conclude a dissertation. In G. Blue (Ed.), Language, learning and success: Study through English (pp.105-112). UK: Macmillan.

Peters, R. L. (1997). Getting what you came for (revised edition). New York: Noonday.

Rudestam, K. Erik & Newton, R. R. (2001). Surviving your dissertation: a comprehensive guide to content and process (2nd ed). Thousand Oaks, Calif.:Sage Publications.

Swales, J. M. (2004). Research genres: Explorations and applications. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Weissberg, R. & Buker, S. (1990). Writing up research: Experimental research report writing for students of English. Englewood Cliffs, N.J. : Prentice Hall Regents.

#### Online Resources:

On-line theses available at the CityU library website  
Free-downloading concordancing tool: AntConc (<http://www.antlab.sci.waseda.ac.jp/software.html>)  
Licensed EAP corpus: MICASE

### Related Links