

Course Title	:	University English II
Course Code	:	LUE1002
Year of Study	:	1
Number of Credits/Term	:	3
Mode of Tuition	:	Sectional
Contact Hours Per Week	;	2-hour tutorial x 2 per week
Total Teaching Hours	:	56 hours/4 hours per week
Category	:	Compulsory for those who achieved 4 or above in DSE English and those who have completed University English 1

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course can be seen as a transition from a foundational focus on accuracy, structure and formulaic expressions typical of ESL classrooms to a more advanced focus on the written synthesis of academic sources, critical evaluation of argument, oral seminar/debating skills, and the creative and reflective practices essential to success at tertiary level. After a short review of fundamental skills of source synthesis, it aims to further enhance your awareness of the processes of research and writing by engaging you with extended argumentative texts from an interdisciplinary topic. The main objective of the course is to introduce the structure, stances and advanced techniques in argumentation in written and spoken academic English. The role of visuals will also be highlighted. Upon completion of the course, you will be able to produce more sophisticated argumentation in written, oral and visual forms, drawing on sources from at least two disciplines.

AIMS

To enable Lingnan students to achieve the academic and career success they deserve by developing their argumentation skills in written and spoken English for academic purposes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Apply the structure and advanced techniques of argumentation including appropriate use of subtle rhetorical devices such as stance markers and hedges in writing and speaking.
2. Critique a topic from an academic and interdisciplinary perspective after selecting and critically evaluating a range of sources to draft/complete an extended argumentative essay following appropriate academic citations, referencing styles and conventions.

3. Engage more fluently in both planned and unplanned seminar discussions and interactions, using appropriate academic phraseology to more convincingly state stance, challenge others, concede and defend ideas.
4. Reflect critically on your strengths and weaknesses in academic skills.
5. Demonstrate the ability to present arguments orally using advanced presentation skills that incorporate visuals that support your thesis.

INDICATIVE CONTENT

The course is organized into topics which revolve around argumentation, whether as a written, visual or spoken form.

Topics	What does it mean?
Rhetorical Situation	You will learn about the specific academic situations where you have to argue for a position such as oral discussion, presentations and research essays/reports. Elements such as audience and purpose will be reviewed. You will also learn about the similarities and differences of arguments in different academic fields.
Writing Process and Research Skills	This will take care of the process of writing - from an idea to finished product: reading and evaluating sources efficiently, generating ideas, planning a coherent/cohesive response, drafting, peer reviewing and editing. Academic writing skills such as synthesizing sources, quoting, paraphrasing and referencing/citing ideas will also be reviewed.
Medium: Written, Visual and Oral Argument	Differences between visual, oral and written arguments will be covered. In addition to learning how to present your arguments orally and in writing, you will find out how to present a visual to argue for a case.
Language Focus	This topic will give you help and suggestions on how to craft arguments as a genre. You will learn about the specific language features common in argumentation such as hedges, signposts, and conceding/refuting arguments. The course will also review language patterns for describing/evaluating arguments made by others and showing your own critical stance.
Critical Thinking	This will cover topics such as the distinction between facts, opinions and ideas. You will also be given chances to reflect on your critical thinking, academic skills and language use.

TEACHING METHODS

This course uses a communicative language teaching approach and you will engage individually, in pairs and in small groups in a variety of classroom activities each week. Authentic reading and listening materials are used throughout the course covering a variety of contexts and topics. Speaking and writing activities allow practice of skills and language covered in the course on a

progressively more challenging basis during the term. While the emphasis is on developing autonomous learners who can reflect independently on their own areas for improvement, tutors will give you targets for improvement at several points in the course to help you understand your own needs for development. Where necessary, students will be signposted to other CEAL resources, additional practice materials, and online resources. Homework assignments, reflection tasks and flipped learning activities will train you to engage in language learning beyond the classroom.

MEASUREMENT OF LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning outcomes	Assessment methods				
	Short written essay in controlled conditions	Speaking/ Reflection Portfolio	Extended Argumentative Essay	Individual Presentation	Attendance and Participation
1. Apply the structure and advanced techniques of argumentation including appropriate use of subtle rhetorical devices such as stance markers and hedges in writing and speaking.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Critique a topic from an academic and interdisciplinary perspective after selecting and critically evaluating a range of sources to draft/complete an extended argumentative essay following appropriate academic citations, referencing styles and conventions.			✓		
3. Engage more fluently in both planned and		✓			✓

unplanned seminar discussions and interactions, using appropriate academic phraseology to more convincingly state stance, challenge others, concede and defend ideas.					
4. Reflect critically on your strengths and weaknesses in academic skills.		✓			✓
5. Demonstrate the ability to present arguments orally using advanced presentation skills that incorporate visuals that support your thesis.		✓		✓	✓

ASSESSMENT

The learning outcomes will be measured through:

Assessment	Weight	Details
Speaking and reflection portfolio	20%	Two short examples of your speaking skills (from a debate in Week 3 and from a mini-presentation in Week 8) will be recorded and you will submit these recordings with a short written reflection on your progress in academic speaking skills.
Short written essay in controlled conditions	20%	You will show that you can synthesise the ideas from two or more sources which may come from two different disciplines in a well organised critical short essay in controlled conditions.
Individual presentation	25%	You will deliver a presentation with visuals that argues for the position you have chosen in your extended essay topic. Each presentation takes 10 minutes including 2 minutes for questions and answers.
An extended argumentative	25%	You will write an argumentative essay with an interdisciplinary perspective of 900-1100 words to argue for the position you have

essay		chosen for your topic with APA style in-text citations and referencing (or other system used at Lingnan).
Attendance & Participation	10%	The remaining 10% is for your attendance, participation in class activities and engagement in coursework tasks.

COURSE MATERIALS

Course materials developed by CEAL will be available on Moodle in various formats for you to download/print. The course materials will be referred to in every class, so you should print them out or bring a suitable electronic device such as a netbook, a laptop or a tablet to view the electronic materials. A small size tablet such as the iPad Mini is considered to be the minimum suitable size for viewing and using the course materials. **A device of the size of a smartphone or smaller is NOT considered adequate for viewing the materials in class.**

Supplementary materials are also provided through Moodle: <https://lms.ln.edu.hk>. You will find this Moodle site and CEAL's web site (<http://www.ln.edu.hk/ceal>) very useful for guiding your English language studies and for helping to answer questions you may have about this course, or other language enhancement courses offered by CEAL.

IMPORTANT NOTES

1. Students are expected to spend a total of at least 12 hours (i.e. 4 hours of class contact and 8 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.
2. Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations and Course Work. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is “the presentation of another person’s work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student’s own work”. Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
3. Students are required to submit all their written assignments using Turnitin.
4. For CEAL courses, a penalty will be imposed for any instance of copying of more than 5 words consecutively (without acknowledging the source), excluding formulaic expressions, proper names and technical terms.
5. The use of generative AI (such as Chat GPT) in assessed work is forbidden. If we suspect use of this technology we will investigate, and this may lead to an academic integrity process.
6. To enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.
7. In order for students to review and reflect on their speaking, two extracts of their speaking for the Portfolio assessment will be recorded and temporarily hosted on the university’s cloud-based systems (e.g. Panopto or Zoom). Students must not share these recordings with anyone outside of their class.