

English Writing Lab

Program in which it is offered: All UG/IM degree programmes

Course Category: Proficiency

Schedule of Offering: Semester III

Course Credit Structure: 1

Course Code: LL435

- **Lecture: 0**
- **Tutorial: 0**
- **Practical: 2**

Contact Hours per week: 2

**Instructors: Saurabh Singanapalli
Neethu S Kumar**

1. Introduction

This is a writing lab course, and aims to make the students not only better writers, but also more motivated writers in English. It includes reading authentic English texts as a means of appreciating good writing, before moving on to a series of exercises where students hone their writing skills for narrative and non-narrative writing, and for use in a variety of situations.

2. Course Objectives

This course aims to make learners better writers in English, in both formal and informal situations, through regular guided practice.

3. Course Outcomes

At the end of this course, learners will be able to:

- Appreciate various kinds of writing styles and text structures
- Write different kinds of texts in English: narrative, argumentative, informative, and discursive
- Write appropriate messages in different kinds of formal and informal situations

4. Pre-requisites

The student must have attended the 'Communicating in English' course in the first semester. This implies that a student desiring to attend this course must be familiar and proficient in using English to perform the general communicative functions of day-to-day life.

5. Readings

Primary Texts

- Wilson, P. and Glazier, T.F. (2018). *The Least You Should Know About English: Writing Skills, 13th edition*. Cengage Learning.

2. Bodden, H., Herbert, K., & Renné, R. (Eds.). (2002). *Great English short stories: Roald Dahl, Katherine Mansfield, Alun Lewis, James Joyce, Alan Sillitoe, John Wain*. Ernst Klett Verlag.

Subsidiary reading:

1. Byatt, A.S. (2009). *The Oxford Book of English Short Stories*. Oxford University Press.
2. Ricketson, M. (2004). *Writing feature stories: how to research and write newspaper and magazine articles*. Allen and Unwin.
3. Cox, A. (2007). *Writing short stories*. Routledge.
4. Bailey, S. (2017). *Academic writing: A handbook for international students*. Routledge.
5. Online Writing Lab: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/>
6. English Reader: <http://english-e-reader.net/>

6. Module-wise topics

Module 1: An overview of writing in English (10 hours, Text 1, pp.1-439)**Objectives:**

- To appreciate and recognise different writing styles through a reading of numerous stories and sample essays.

Topics:

- Narrative structure
- Development of narratives
- Non-narrative writing

Module 2: Improving writing skills (8 hours, Text 2, pp.62-178)**Objectives:**

- To improve writing skills by studying transition words, sentence structure and punctuation

Topics:

- Using words correctly
- Using punctuation correctly
- Improving sentence structure
- Improving paragraph structure

Module 3: Writing Lab (12 hours, Text 2, pp.232-266)**Objectives:**

- To practise different kinds of writing through a series of writing exercises

Topics:

- Free writing
- Identifying topics and thesis statements
- Using quotations
- Writing responses

7. Pedagogy

Since this is a lab course, the teaching methodology will be mostly practice-oriented. Students will read different texts in English to familiarize themselves with different kinds of writing styles and narrative/non-narrative structures. They will also spend a number of classes practising and improving their writing skills.

8. Evaluation Pattern

- Mid-semester exam (20%)
- Group writing tasks (2) (20%)
- Individual writing tasks (2) (20%)
- Final project (40%)