

**EAP 508:
GRADUATE COMMUNICATION ACROSS THE DISCIPLINES III**

Class Meeting Dates: Tuesdays & Thursdays
 Class Meeting Time: 12:30pm-2:20pm
 Class Meeting Location: Innovation Hall, Room 320

Office Hours: Monday from 12:00-3:00pm
 Office Location: Robinson A 353 G

Karyn Mallett
 Language Specialist
 Mason Global Center,
 Phone: (703) 993-5014
kmallet1@gmu.edu

&

Anna S. Habib
 Composition Specialist
 Robinson Hall A, 353G
 Phone: (703) 993-4660
ahabib@gmu.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides integrated language and writing instruction for international graduate students. As you explore what it means to be literate in your discourse communities and develop strategies for completing research-based projects in your fields, you will complete two semester-long projects – The Graduate Classroom Language Portfolio & The Multidisciplinary Colloquium Project.

In this course, linguistic and rhetorical principles are broken down and introduced in a way that will help you identify, model, and analyze the discipline-specific moves of academic and professional communication. The goal, in the end, is (1) for you to identify and construct linguistic structures and rhetorical features common in your discourse communities and (2) for you to gain confidence and strategies for contributing to the scholarship of your fields.

As an INTO Mason Accelerated International Pathway Program student, you will need to demonstrate English communication proficiency throughout the term. In order to encourage effective writing habits (including revision and editing), you will repeatedly work at the sentence and discourse levels to increase the clarity, precision, and appropriateness of your writing as outlined in each project description. Class instruction will be supplemented by small-group and one-on-one conferencing with course instructors.

OVERALL COURSE GOALS:

EAP 508 students will develop strategies and skills for completing two graduate-level communication projects, including:

- engaging in authentic graduate-level written/oral communication tasks
- contributing to and participating in discipline-specific communities of practice
- analyzing and adapting to the rhetorical needs of a particular project

- exploring varied ways of communicating across international and national discipline-specific discourse communities
- engaging in intertextual conversations appropriately
- responding appropriately to genre and audience expectations
- understanding research methodologies and conventions in U.S. academic writing
- growing awareness of language usage through
 - editing writing for correctness of syntax and appropriateness of diction
 - refining self-correction techniques for resolving individual patterns of error
 - oral communication skills practice, in the context of graduate-level, discipline-specific discourse conventions

REQUIRED TEXTS

There is no textbook for this course, but there are many required readings uploaded as PDF documents to our BlackBoard course site. You should buy at least two reams of paper and a print cartridge or two, or put at least \$100 dedicated to printing EAP 508 materials with Mason Money so that you can print course materials when required to do so. It will be your responsibility to print the readings and bring them to class on the days they are assigned.

SUGGESTED TEXTS

- Swales, J. & Feak, C. (2012). *Academic Writing for Graduate Students: Essential Tasks and Skills, 3rd Edition*. Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press.
- Graff, G. & Birkenstein, C. (2014). *They Say, I Say: The Moves that Matter in Academic Writing, 3rd Edition*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.
- Harris, J. (2006) *Rewriting: How to Do Things with Texts*. Logan: Utah State University Press.
- Hacker, Diana & Nancy Sommers (2009). *A Writer's Reference: With Resources for Multilingual Writers and ESL, 7th ed.* New York: Bedford/St. Martin's.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Most class meetings will be interactive and will involve a significant amount of discussion and writing. You may be asked to work individually as well as collaboratively as you investigate issues, practice writing strategies and skills, and review your own and your peers' work. Please come to each class meeting prepared to participate.

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADE WEIGHTS

Assignment	Grade Weight	Assignment Descriptions
<p style="text-align: center;">PROJECT 1: THE GRADUATE CLASSROOM LANGUAGE PORTFOLIO</p>	40%	<p>Project 1 is designed to prepare you for graduate-level, seminar-style classroom engagement. Regardless of your field of study, all graduate students are expected to meet common (although often unspoken) expectations for class participation. In this and other graduate courses, you will need to prepare comments/questions/critiques of academic texts or professional genres, demonstrate critical reading skills and strategies, show improved rhetorical and linguistic awareness, lead and participate in group discussions, and receive and respond to oral and written feedback. From weeks 2-10 of the semester, you will submit documents in your GCLP folders, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight Written Article Critiques • Eight Discussion Worksheets • One Lesson Plan • Note: Each of these assignments will receive feedback and is required to be revised. Deadlines for these revisions are noted on the course calendar.
<p style="text-align: center;">PROJECT 2: THE MULTIDISCIPLINARY COLLOQUIUM PROJECT</p>	50%	<p>Project 2 introduces you to the process and practice of presenting research and scholarship at an academic conference. The end product will be delivered in a 20-minutes scholarly talk at “International Graduate Student Multidisciplinary Colloquium.” The project will consist of several related assignments, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Topic Proposal · 10-source Annotated Bibliography · Literature Review · Abstract (Conference Proposal) · Conference Presentation PowerPoint Slides, Presentation Notes, & Presentation Handouts · Bilingual Presentation Description · Final Reflection Essay
<p style="text-align: center;">PARTICIPATION</p>	10%	<p>This grade reflects participation in class discussions & critiques. Participation is more than just showing up for class, but rather what we have in mind is for each of you to be actively present. The term “actively present” implies intellectual awareness as well as the basic courtesies of formal social gatherings. You are expected to attend every class, be actively engaged in class discussions, in-class writing and student-led discussions and presentations.</p>

POLICIES

Graduate Grading Policy

In order to pass this course, you must earn a B- or above. University course work is measured in terms of quantity and quality. A credit normally represents one hour per week of lecture or recitation, or not fewer than two hours per week of laboratory work, throughout a semester. The number of credits is a measure of quantity. The grade is a measure of quality. The university-wide system for grading graduate courses is as follows:

Grade	Quality Points	Graduate Courses
A+	4.00	Satisfactory/Passing
A	4.00	Satisfactory/Passing
A-	3.67	Satisfactory/Passing
B+	3.33	Satisfactory/Passing
B	3.00	Satisfactory/Passing
B-	2.67	*Satisfactory/Passing
C	2.00	Unsatisfactory/Failing
F	0.00	Unsatisfactory/Failing

*Although a B- is a satisfactory grade for a course, students must maintain a 3.00 average in their degree program and present a 3.00 GPA on the courses listed on the graduation application.

Late Work Policy

Late assignments are those posted on Blackboard any time after the beginning of class on the due date. **Late assignments will lose 10% for each calendar day that they are late. Late-work penalties cannot be changed through revision.**

Submitting Class Work

All assignments will be submitted on Blackboard. Assignments must be posted on Blackboard at the beginning of class on the due date. Unless otherwise noted, all formal assignments should be typed in Microsoft Word using a standard font and size (Times New Roman 12), and double-spaced. Submitted assignments should include the student's name, the instructor's names, the class section, and the date at the top of the first page. When documents are submitted to Blackboard, the date/time for the posted assignment is recorded.

Individual or Group Conferencing

Since students in the course are all working in different disciplines, we will be requiring that you meet with us in groups or individually throughout the semester during our office hours or at other arranged dates/times.

Statement on Plagiarism

Plagiarism means using the exact words, opinions, or factual information from another source without giving that source credit. Writers give credit through the use of accepted documentation styles, such as parenthetical citation, footnotes, or endnotes; a simple listing of books, articles, and websites is not sufficient. **Plagiarism cannot be tolerated in an academic setting.**

Mason's Policy on Academic Integrity

Mason is an Honor Code university; please see the University Catalog for a full description of the code and the honor committee process. The principle of academic integrity is taken very seriously and violations are treated gravely. What does academic integrity mean in this course? Essentially this: when you are responsible for a task, you will perform that task. When you rely on someone else's work in an aspect of the performance of that task, you will give full credit in the proper, accepted form. Another aspect of academic integrity is the free play of ideas. Vigorous discussion and debate are encouraged in this course, with the firm expectation that all aspects of the class will be conducted with civility and respect for differing ideas, perspectives, and traditions. When in doubt (of any kind) please ask for guidance and clarification.

Office Hours

Your professors' office hours are posted on the first page of the syllabus. You should feel free to drop in anytime to talk about the course or any need for additional support. You do not have to set up an appointment during office hours, though it may be helpful to do so as the year progresses. However, if you are not able to visit us during our office hours, please email us to schedule an appointment. We welcome your visits whenever we are available and we enjoy meeting with you individually.