

**Course ID Number: LGC4040**

**Course Title: English for Thesis Writing I**

No. of Credits: 1

Graduate School of International Relations  
International University of Japan

Fall 2010

Instructor: Christopher M. Murphy

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### **Course Introduction**

This course is designed for second year students in either GSIR or GSIM who are nonnative speakers of English.

This course is designed to help second year students who are new to IUJ, students who are in need of further academic English assistance, and/or students who wish to get prepared to start writing their thesis.

This course aims to give students the fundamental knowledge of English writing necessary for starting their thesis paper. In this course students will:

- review useful English grammar commonly found in English thesis writing
- review key elements of academic English writing and organizing a paper
- develop the skill of summarizing from multiple sources
- develop self-editing and proofreading skills
- learn how to avoid plagiarism
- review note-taking skills
- respond to readings

## **English for Thesis Writing (ETW) I Fall 2010**

Classes: Tuesday & Thursday, Period 6 (18:00-19:30)

Instructor: Christopher M. Murphy (tel: x412; e-mail: cmmurphy)

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

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This course is neither a substitute for advising from students' thesis advisors nor an editing service for students writing their thesis paper. Rather, the course offers students a basic introduction to English writing and organizational skills necessary for thesis writing.

Main features:

- Essay
- Summary
- Individual writing project (Research proposal or general description of intended research)
- In-class grammar quizzes
- In-class grammar mid-term & final
- Tutorials

### **ORGANIZATION**

This course will meet twice a week. The first class of each week will cover elements of English academic thesis writing. Students will read and respond to articles individually, in pairs, and in small groups. Students will complete short, in-class writing assignments. The second class of each week will cover grammar areas useful for academic English thesis writing. Students will be quizzed on the grammar areas covered in class.

### **COURSE ASSESSMENT**

- Several take-home assignments: One essay (15%), one summary (15%), one individual writing project (20%)
- Short in-class writing assignments (10%)
- Weekly grammar quizzes (x6) (10%)
- Grammar mid-term (10%)

- Grammar final (10%)
- Attendance & participation (10%)

### **COURSE POLICIES**

- Attend class and tutorials on time.
- Complete assignments by instructor's deadlines.
- Prepare for class by completing assigned readings and homework.
- Contribute to class discussions while respecting other classmates' right to contribute.
- Plagiarism will not be accepted. Students caught plagiarizing may face penalties including a failing grade and disciplinary action by the university.

### **TEXT MATERIALS**

Required (Students are required to purchase the following texts):

- Dollahite, N.E. & Haun, J. (2006). *Sourcework. Academic Writing From Sources*. Boston, MA: Thomson Heinle.
- Folse, K., Vestri Solomon, E., & Smith-Palinkas, B. (2008). *Top 20. Great Grammar for Great Writing, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*. Boston, MA: Thomson Heinle.

Supplemental (Students do not need to buy these texts but the instructor may use material from these sources):

- (2001). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 5<sup>th</sup> edition*. Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association.
- Selected materials from academic journals.
- GSIR & GSIM guidelines for thesis/research essay writing.

<b>Week #</b>	<b>Subjects (Class 1)</b>	<b>Grammar (Class 2)</b>
Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course introduction</li> <li>• How to avoid plagiarism</li> <li>• Summary &amp; paraphrase</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verb tense</li> </ul>
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary &amp; paraphrase</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verb tense</li> </ul>
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to create a research question</li> <li>• How to read and take notes</li> <li>• How to organize notes</li> <li>• Summary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active/Passive voice</li> </ul>
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to write a thesis statement</li> <li>• Essay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active/Passive voice</li> </ul>
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to construct paragraphs</li> <li>• Essay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar mid-term</li> </ul>
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to write introductions &amp; conclusions</li> <li>• Essay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjective clauses</li> </ul>
Week 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to choose a research topic</li> <li>• Individual writing project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjective clauses</li> </ul>
Week 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to write a research proposal</li> <li>• Individual writing project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adverb clauses</li> </ul>
Week 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-class review of writing</li> <li>• Individual writing project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adverb clauses</li> </ul>
Week 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-class review of writing</li> <li>• Individual writing project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar Final</li> </ul>