**Academic Writing Workshops**

**Reviewing Common Challenges: Referencing and Grammar**

The SCEBE Learning Development Centre (LDC) offers a series of online workshops that break down some of the challenges in writing. If you feel you’d like to go over the basics of referencing or some common grammar issues, just drop into the online session(s) that would be most useful to you. Workshops will take place on Wednesday afternoons.

Workshops will be accessed via the LDC Workshops in Collaborate Ultra area, in GCULearn.

<https://blackboard.gcal.ac.uk/ultra/organizations/_123482_1/cl/outline>

All SCEBE students are welcome to attend any or all workshops. Some of the workshops also cover challenges faced by international students.

Note: recordings of workshops may be available in the recordings section of the LDC Workshops in Collaborate Ultra area, in GCULearn. Some recordings can be accessed via the links shown below.

**Week 1, Wednesday 2nd February**

**1pm-2pm: SCEBE LDC Overview.**

This workshop gives an overview of the SCEBE LDC team and what we have to offer to help you be a more successful student.

**Week 2, Wednesday 9th February**

**1pm-2pm: Citing, referencing, and using Cite them right.**

This workshop focuses on referencing and using citations effectively. It introduces different techniques for referring to sources in your work and we will look Cite them right  - the guide to referencing and avoiding plagiarism

Access the recording [**HERE**](https://youtu.be/EUgWpb-QK0s).

**2pm-3pm: Writing as an International Student.**

International students may find that writing reports, notes and assignments during their studies can be quite daunting. The process of writing, the elements of writing and language and vocabulary requirements can often be challenging. This workshop will introduce you to the academic writing skills which are required to help you get the most out of your studies and show you how you can shape your writing and learn to communicate more effectively. Further workshops will focus in more depth on specific skills.

Access the recording [**HERE**](https://youtu.be/JvRqqUC-jPk).

**Week 3, Wednesday 16th February**

**1pm-2pm: Writing a Project Proposal.**

Successful project proposals share the quality of clarity in communicating: 1) the scientific idea being investigated and 2) a workable project plan that sets out, coherently, how the objectives will be achieved.  Framing your thoughts before writing this down is an essential part of the process and that is often missed.  This workshop will take you from the ideation stage to articulating your project proposal on the page as well as give you a way in to conducting a literature review.

**2pm-3pm: Expanding your Academic Vocabulary Bank.**

Developing a strong academic vocabulary bank is a key building block to bring sophistication to your academic writing.  A common problem in writing is the discrepancy between what we mean to say and what we actually write on paper.  The culprit is often inaccurate or improper use of words.  This session will share strategies and resources to help you develop your vocabulary.

**Week 4, Wednesday 23th February**

**1pm-2pm: Reading strategies – skimming, scanning.**

This workshop focuses on strategies and tips for effective reading and note taking to help you get the most out of your reading at GCU.

**Week 5, Wednesday 2nd March**

**1pm-2pm: Paragraphs: creating flow, cohesion and argument**

Are you worried your writing is disjointed?  Or that you are not driving the argument forward?  This session is aimed at helping you strengthen the links between ideas in your text at paragraph level.

**2pm-3pm: Formal / Informal**

Formal and informal language serve different purposes. The tone, the choice of words and the way the words are put together vary between the two styles. Formal language is used when writing for professional or academic purposes at University.  This workshop will show you the differences between formal and informal writing and give you the tips and tools on using formal language appropriately and effectively.

**Week 6, Wednesday 9th March**

**1pm-2pm: Sentence structure 1**

Are your sentences clunky, fragmented or unclear?  This class explains the mechanics of sentence structure and explains how you can avoid a typical sentence structure problem:  incomplete sentences.

**2pm-3pm: Using sources with integrity - avoiding unintentional plagiarism**

Workshop aimed at International Students/L2 learners.  Plagiarism may not always be intentional. Students from non-English speaking backgrounds in particular may be unaware of what exactly constitutes plagiarism.  This workshop aims to raise awareness of the importance of using sources with integrity and illustrate the different ways to ensure sole authorial responsibility for work.

**Week 7, Wednesday 16th March**

**1pm-2pm: Sentence structure 2**

Building on the first sentence structure class, this session helps you avoid run-on sentences, reviews common punctuation problems, and explains how you can avoid ambiguity caused by misplaced modifiers.

**2pm-3pm: Common grammar errors**

If you don't have the same language structure in your native language it is common to get grammar points such as choosing the wrong tense or the use of the article (the, a) mixed up. This workshop will help you to recognise common errors and give you tools on how to fix them.

**Week 8, Wednesday 23th March**

**1pm-2pm: Revision, Editing and Proof reading**

Are you worried your text is not polished enough?  This workshop will explain the difference between revision, editing and proofreading and show you strategies on how to apply this to your text.

**Week 9, Wednesday 30th March**

**1pm-2pm: Punctuation**

Punctuation is an important 'code' that helps the reader understand your message. This interactive workshop aims to outline the principles of standard punctuation and will give you tips on how to avoid errors. This is suitable for all students and international students, in particular, will benefit.