

Workshops International Writing Centre – Course descriptions

Writing Your Thesis (without ETCS)

The workshop targets students with academic writing experience, preparing a bachelor or master thesis and working/ planning to work in a multilingual way. In this workshop the process of writing a thesis will be taught and trained with a focus on the use of one's own multilingualism as a resource for academic writing. Parts of this process include time management, working with scientific literature, structuring and drafting text as well as revising text.

Preparing Presentations Across Languages (5 ECTS)

This workshop offers students of all faculties in international study programs the possibility to train their presentation and rhetorical skills in written based orality. Starting from students' experience in presenting the workshop focuses on developing and extending their knowledge regarding presenting in academic contexts at a German university. Along with some theoretical concepts of how to schedule an oral presentation, exercises involving students' own presentations' preparation constitute a main part of the workshop. As oral presenting also involves writing activities such as handouts, presentation cards and slides, it is therefore relevant to combine oral and written competencies. Students will apply the acquired knowledge in a short presentation which will be delivered and feedbacked during the workshop.

Academic Writing Partnerships (4 ECTS)

The goal of the programme is for students of different cultural backgrounds to get to know and understand each other by cooperating on a writing project. These projects are realised in teams and can fall into any genre, academic or creative. Participants learn about the requirement for their genre of text and can discuss their experiences of writing in different languages and cultural contexts.

From Data to Text: How Do I Write in the Natural Sciences? (6 ECTS)

This workshop offers students of natural sciences the possibility to engage in different cultures of academic writing because English represents the language for writing in natural sciences. However, German is used in some cases for different communication purposes and standard texts such as protocols. Therefore, we will analyze different text types, reflect on standardized forms of writing with focus on the text type "Paper" and apply the acquired background knowledge on the individual writing style. For an efficient handling of the writing process, we will be dealing with multilingual strategies in writing. The workshop is based on the concept of learning by doing which means that students are invited to try out various ways of writing and presenting in their discipline, as well as drafting their own text, e.g. an introduction, and involve themselves in active peer feedback. In this workshop, we will focus on publishing and presenting within the context of a conference.

Academic Writing in Multilingual Contexts in Law Studies (3 ECTS)

This workshop is targeted to students of international study programs and students who work multilingually or would like to proceed multilingual in their academic writing. Workshop participants will get to know various text genres relevant in law studies, and how to compose them adequately in terms of (scientific) language. A focus of this workshop is to raise awareness towards the individual multilingualism of the participants and to use this resource for one's own academic writing.

Academic Writing and Practice in Multilingual Contexts in the Humanities and Social Sciences (6 ECTS)

This workshop is recommended to students in international study programs in all disciplines of the humanities and the social sciences. Students from different backgrounds and disciplines learn how to consciously apply their multilingual strategies and resources acquired in their international academic contexts. In this workshop, they will be offered the possibility to work with texts and to develop their own writing style influenced by the languages, backgrounds and academic contexts they have visited or come from. The students are invited to bring different texts they work with and texts they wrote during their academic development. These texts can of course be in different languages. The texts will be analyzed and discussed during the workshop with a focus beyond languages and rather on structure, formation and author reference. Students will apply this knowledge of their multilingual resources and strategies on the development of their own academic writing skills.

How to Prepare and Write an Exam (3 ECTS)

Recommended to students writing exams ("Klausuren") at the end of this semester. This workshop offers students the possibility to experience and learn different types of written examinations ("Klausuren") in the context of a German university. Besides learning techniques as well as time management will be a part of the practical work.

From Reading to Writing Texts (4 ECTS)

In this workshop students get to know different reading strategies and learn to apply them in order to work efficiently with literature. They will also learn how to take notes on the texts they have read and how to integrate them in their own text.

For all workshops:

Examination: Learning journal (max. 20 pages)

Examination prerequisites: regular attendance; written tasks