IELI 2420 - Writing from Academic Sources

Catalog Description
Introduces students to academic writing demands. Students gather information from various sources, such as interviews, surveys, and academic texts; analyze and summarize the information; and write documented essays and reports.

Course Goals
Students learn . . .
• academic research skills needed in university-level coursework
• academic writing skills
• the computer skills necessary to participate in a writing class

Expected Learner Outcomes
1) Students display academic research skills by showing in their writing that they . . .
   • evaluate sources
   • gather relevant information
   • use electronic library databases and the Internet for information gathering

2) Students display academic writing skills by showing in their writing . . .
   • a clear focus and overall organization typical of various academic genres
   • information that has been paraphrased/summarized from multiple sources
   • acknowledgement of others’ ideas through in-text citations and reference lists
   • use of language (syntax, grammar, vocabulary) that does not interfere with comprehensibility

Typical Classroom Topics/Activities
• What is academic writing?
• Clear and coherent writing
• Formatting papers: margins, line spacing, title, subheadings
• Sources of information acceptable for academic writing
• Note-taking techniques
• Paraphrasing
• Summarizing
• Synthesizing ideas
• Acknowledging sources through acknowledging phrases, in-text citations and reference lists
• In-class writing
• Developing academic paragraph
• Incorporating supporting information
• Drawing conclusions
• Library tour
• Designing and supporting arguments
• Reliability of sources
• Stating and supporting opinions
• University expectations of paper development
• Definitions: dictionary, personal, extended
• Sentence types: simple, compound, complex
• Argumentation paper
• Analysis paper
• Event paper
• Controversy paper
• Introductions and conclusions