

Course description

Written expression for 3rd year classes is a course that aims to develop particularly students' essay writing skill. It equips them with the necessary writing mechanics to write an effective essay of different patterns of organization. The course focuses on both parts and types of the essay with intensive practices inside and outside classroom.

Third year Written expression is a tutorial-based course (TD) of a weekly schedule of one hour and a half (1h.30). Its program is thematically divided into two terms. In the first term, students will be exposed to different parts essay writing. In addition, it sheds some light on the essential elements of the essay especially coherence, cohesion, unity and completeness. In the second term, students will practice writing some types of essays (methods of development),

First semester

In the first semester, the general unit of instruction is the components of essay writing (introductory paragraph, the hook, thesis statement, body paragraphs, concluding paragraph).

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

1. Shift from paragraph writing to essay writing
2. Write an effective hook sentence (grabber) using different techniques mainly the funnel structure, rhetoric question, shocking statistics and anecdote.
3. Develop a strong thesis statement indicating the main idea and the controlling idea
4. Distinguish between factual thesis statement and arguable thesis statement
5. making an outline for three body paragraphs
6. Use connectors and transitional signals properly
7. Write a good concluding paragraph
8. Paraphrase the thesis statement
9. Summarize the main points in the body
10. Find ways to end up the essay with a final memorable thought

Second semester

In the second semester, the focus is on the essay's methods of development. The ultimate goal is to familiarize students with the three major patterns (cause/effect, compare/contrast and argumentative) and train them on how to write coherent and cohesive essays following the corresponding patterns of organization. By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

1. Develop a cause/effect essay (focus-on-causes or focus-on-effects)
2. Develop a compare-contrast essay (point-by-point or subject-by-subject)
3. Develop an argumentative essay (pros and cons)