



THE UNIVERSITY OF
BUCKINGHAM



Introduction to Academic Writing

An important route
into the BA (Hons) in
Primary Education
and BA (Hons) in
Secondary Education
(Maths and SEND)

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Faculty of Education, The University of Buckingham

For the **2026** entries

In partnership with
anspear

As part of its commitment to fostering social mobility this course can enable potential candidates without the two A-Levels (or equivalents) normally required to qualify for the degree courses.

Running for 14 weeks (starting in **September 2025** (for the Primary Education course) and **January 2026** (for both degrees), each course can be completed in time for successful participants to apply for the requisite BA programme starting in **July 2026**.

The **Introduction to Academic Writing** course is designed to help prepare learners for academic study at a higher level and to complete longer pieces of writing. At the same time it will enable those without Level 3 qualifications to demonstrate their capacity to succeed on a degree course.

The units making up the course are progressive and assist participants who may have been away from formal education for some time.

The course will be delivered through a combination of:

- › Online course content (also available offline on smart devices)
- › Online lectures
- › Podcasts
- › Writing activities with AI-driven feedback
- › Formal written assessments marked by University staff



The course

Unit 1 | Ingredients of Good Writing

1	Grammar
2	Sentences
3	Punctuation

Unit 2 | What is academic writing?

1	What makes academic writing different?
2	Formal Language
3	Voice, Opinions and Arguments

Unit 3 | The Building Blocks of Good Writing

1	What makes a good sentence
2	Constructing a coherent paragraph
3	Managing transitions
4	Why bother with referencing?

Unit 4 | How good reading leads to good writing

1	Different types of reading you will encounter
2	How to tackle an academic reading
3	Turning a reading into notes
4	How do you record your reactions?

Unit 5 | Presenting an argument

1	Why do we talk about arguments?
2	How to plan your academic argument
3	Does everyone agree? The importance of counter argument
4	Building a cumulative argument

Unit 6 | Preparing for the BA - Reflective Writing

1	What do we mean by reflective writing?
2	How to ensure your reflective writing is academic
3	Exemplar Question Analysis
4	Getting your language right

Unit 7 | Preparing for the BA - Analysis (Comprehension)

1	What is the point of completing a comprehension?
2	How to link your reading with your answer
3	How to analyse the text
4	Individual Questions, but creating a whole answer

Unit 8 | Preparing for the BA - Essay Writing

1	How do I understand the question?
2	How to plan an essay
3	How to write an essay
4	How to edit your essay

Unit 9 | Adding your voice

1	What do we mean by critical voice?
2	How do you add your voice to reflective writing
3	How do you add your voice to a comprehension
4	How do you add your voice to an essay

Unit 10 | Assessment and how it progresses

1	How is academic writing assessed?
2	How will my work be assessed when I start the course?
3	How will the assessments change year to year?
4	How to avoid common mistakes

Unit 11 | Avoid pitfalls of academic writing

1	Problems with plagiarism
2	Not getting the referencing right
3	Does your writing answer the question?
4	Not making sense – losing the logical flow

Unit 12 | Acting on feedback

1	What feedback should I expect?
2	Imposter Syndrome
3	What if I fail a submission?
4	Carrying feedback forward

Unit 13 | Your assessment

1	What do I need to remember about language?
2	What do I need to remember about punctuation?
3	What do I need to remember about academic language?
4	Top Tips to Remember

Unit 14 | Looking ahead

1	First Feedback
2	What do I do next?
3	Self-evaluation – strengths and weaknesses

Cost

To make the course more accessible to a wider range of possible participants the cost has been held down to **£480** inc VAT.

Order form

Please complete and return to uob@anspear.com.

Introduction to Academic Writing

Please sign me/the individual named, onto the Introduction to Academic Writing course starting:

☐ September 2025 ☐ January 2026

I am interested in the;

- ☐ BA (Hons) in Primary Education
☐ BA (Hons) in Secondary Education (Maths and SEND)

Name

Address

Tel

.....

☐ Please invoice the below for **£480**

Postcode

Email



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