

Course Title: **Academic Communication: Conventions and Expectations**

Course Code: **COMM570**

Descriptor Start Date: **01/01/2025**

Descriptor End Date: **30/12/2025**

POINTS: **15.00**

LEVEL: **5**

PREREQUISITE/S:

COREQUISITE/S:

RESTRICTION/S:

## LEARNING HOURS

Hours may include lectures, tutorials, online forums, laboratories. Refer to your timetable and course information in Canvas for detailed information.

**Total learning hours: 150**

## PRESCRIPTOR

This course extends students' skills in navigating the conventions of academic communication through practice in critical thinking, rhetorical analysis, evidence-based analytical writing, oral presentation, and collaboration. It focuses on communicative events, and prompts students to reflect on their individual, social and cultural influences, while developing confidence and competence in oral and written academic analysis.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Analyse and evaluate oral and written communication rhetorically in terms of situation, audience, purpose, aesthetics, and diverse points of view.
2. Use well-defined rhetorical principles to present their ideas with intellectual rigor and stylistic force.
3. Express a primary purpose in a compelling statement and order supporting points logically and convincingly.
4. Undertake careful analysis and integrate evidence correctly and ethically to produce substantive written source-based argument.

**Disclaimer: Course descriptors may be amended between teaching periods/semesters**

## CONTENT

The course introduces academic communication through deep reading, critical thinking, discussion, freewriting, and evidence-based analytical writing. Students develop understanding of the rhetorical foundations of texts and apply that knowledge to their writing, composing with purpose, audience, and genre in mind. Scaffolded essays extend students' techniques for writing, revising, and editing, and enable the practise of summary, analysis, evaluation, and integration of secondary sources in a source-based essay with an original argument.

## LEARNING & TEACHING STRATEGIES

Lectures, tutorials, interactive online resources, and independent study.

## ASSESSMENT PLAN

Assessment Event	Weighting %	Learning Outcomes
Portfolio (Weekly course work, the Literacy Narrative & Source-Based Essay Draft)	40.00	1-4
Rhetorical Analysis Group Presentation	20.00	1-4
Source-Based Essay (2000 words)	40.00	1-4

### Grade Map

#### MAP1

A+ A A- Pass with Distinction  
B+ B B- Pass with Merit  
C+ C C- Pass  
D Fail

### Overall requirement/s to pass the course:

- All assessment items are compulsory and must be submitted.
- Students attend the tutorials to complete the Portfolio, the essay assessments, and participate in peer and tutor feedback.
- Students must meet all Learning Outcomes and achieve a minimum of 50% overall in the course.

## LEARNING RESOURCES

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**For further information, contact:** Te Ara Kete Aronui - Faculty of Culture & Society

**Principal Programme:** AK3704, Bachelor of Arts

**Related Programme/s:**

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