

HUMN 4003 WRITING BEYOND THE ACADEMY: KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION AND PUBLIC AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 800219

Coordinator Jessica Weir (<https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Jessica Weir/>)

Description It is now more important than ever for researchers to explain their research to the public. Although it can be challenging to translate specialist knowledge for non-specialist readers, this is the skill students will receive training for in Writing Beyond the Academy. By following the model of The Conversation, a widely popular knowledge translation platform, students will learn the principles of public audience writing, how to pitch to an editor and how to work with their feedback, and produce their own public audience essay.

School Graduate Research School

Discipline Studies in Human Society, Not Elsewhere Classified.

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees (https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/) page.

Level Undergraduate Level 4 subject

Equivalent Subjects HUMN 4012 - Research Literacies

Restrictions

Students must be enrolled in 8083 Bachelor of Research Studies/ Master of Research or 8119 Bachelor of Research Studies/ Master of Research (Planning) or 4698 Master of Health Science, 4700 GD Health Science or 4702 Master of Public Health or 8128 Master of Artificial Intelligence (Research).

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Critically appraise public audience communication conventions used by researchers.
2. Develop a pitch of a research translation story suitable for a public audience in response to editorial guidelines.
3. Discuss how their own research field addresses issues of broader public concern.
4. Apply knowledge translation skills by writing for a non-specialist public audience;
5. Critically assess their own writing through engagement with reviewer feedback.

Subject Content

- Introduction to the concept of Knowledge translation
- Introduction to the principles of public audience writing
- Pitching ideas to editors

- Working with editorial feedback
- Editing a piece of public audience writing

Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/ Group Task	Mandatory
Reflection	1,000 words	S/U	Y	Individual	Y
Essay	500 words	S/U	Y	Individual	Y
Essay	1,000 words	S/U	Y	Individual	Y
Essay	1,000 words	S/U	Y	Individual	Y

Teaching Periods

Autumn (2025)

Online

Online

Subject Contact Jessica Weir (<https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Jessica Weir/>)

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=HUMN4003_25-AUT_ON_2#subjects)

Spring (2025)

Online

Online

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View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=HUMN4003_25-SPR_ON_2#subjects)

Parramatta City - Macquarie St

On-site

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View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=HUMN4003_25-SPR_PC_1#subjects)