

LCLM4001 Academic Skills

ACS report

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1. Introduction

This report presents a reflection on my experiences throughout the academic skills module. During the course, I took part in several important activities including completing the academic quiz, working on the skills application exercise, and taking part in a variety of classroom tasks. These activities allowed me to develop important academic abilities such as critical thinking, time management, and effective communication. By carefully examining my learning journey I am to demonstrate the areas where I have made considerable progress, in my academic skills. This reflection will support my goal of becoming more confident and successful in my future academic studies.

2. Description of experiences

One of the main tasks we completed was the academic skills quiz, where we answered questions about referencing, plagiarism, time management, and academic writing. This helped me recognise areas where I was confident such as finding reliable sources and areas that needed work, like correct Harvard referencing. Later, in the application of academic skills exercise we practise note taking paraphrasing and writing a paragraph in line with academic conventions. This exercise challenged me to apply what I had learned under timed conditions which was a particularly useful experience. Outside of these tasks, classroom activities like discussions and group work encouraged me to think more critically about academic sources, understand proper paraphrasing, and improve my overall writing style.

3. Analysis and reflection

Looking back at the module, I feel that I made substantial progress, but there are still skills I need to work on. One of my main strengths was time management. I planned my study sessions early, which helped me feel more prepared for both the quiz and

the writing tasks. This habit will be extremely helpful as I continue my studies. I found paraphrasing quite challenging. In the beginning, I often copied phrases too closely to the original texts, without fully rewriting the ideas in my own words. After the in class activities and feedback from the lecturer, I understood how important it is to express information completely in my own style while keeping the original meaning. This is an area I want to keep practising. Academic writing style was another focus. Initially, my paragraphs lacked clear structure and formal tone. Through exercises and classroom examples, I learned to use topic sentence, link my ideas, and keep a formal academic voice. This change made a significant difference in the quality of my work. During the course, I realised that referencing is much more important than I first thought. Before, I believed it was only about avoiding plagiarism.

I have learned that it is also a way to show appreciation for the ideas and research of other authors, as well as to strengthen and support my own arguments.

correctly applying Harvard referencing especially when dealing with online sources was a skill I gradually improved by and consulting academic writing guides this has given me greater confidence in using references accurately and professionally in my work. Another important lesson was critical thinking. I used to accept information from sources without questioning it, but now I check it if the source is reliable and current. Learning to distinguish between academic and non academic sources will help me when writhing future assignments. Finally, my confidence grew during the module. At first, I was shy about taking part in class discussions but over time, I realised that sharing ideas and asking questions helped me understand the topics better being more active in class made me feel more involved and motivated.

Overall, the academic skills module taught me not just techniques like referencing and paraphrasing, but also large skills like managing time, thinking critically, and being more confident as a student.

4. Conclusion

This module has had a positive impact on my personal and academic growth I developed important skills in referencing writing critical thinking and time management at the same time I identified areas like paraphrasing and academic writing style that I still need to improve reflecting on my progress has shown me how much I have learned and given me a clear idea of what I need to work on in the future to be successful in higher education

5. References

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