

Explanation and evaluation of the module “Academic Skills – HPFY3010” - by Robert Pawlikowski

This essay explains and evaluates Academic Skills module taught by Dr Luci Attala. The following paragraphs will explain each subject, contents as well as evaluate the impact it had on learners.

The module is divided into ten parts, with eight of them introducing new aspects. It appears to be aimed at students of all academic backgrounds, serving as a source of knowledge or refresher for those, who are versed in the academic environment.

The first part introduces learners to the systems used within the academic environment of University of Wales, Trinity Saint David, the resources available, such as e-library and the research of the Humanities Department. This section of the module allows students to learn what they are expected to utilise over the course of their studies.

The subject of online resources is elaborated upon in the second part, which aims to explain how the e-library works, how to find a specific topic as well as provides introduction for referencing. The structure of this part allows students to familiarise themselves with the environment and expected standards and prepares them for key aspects of university work – research and writing.

Following the introduction of bibliography, part three explain in the details the Harvard and MHRA rules regarding citations and referencing, providing examples and guidance. Students may find it to be of immense value, as it simplifies the process of writing and provides accurate guidelines of what must be included, as well as prevents plagiarism from happening.

Furthermore, part four of the module explains the aspects of keywords in the assignment and grading. Provided materials within this part were invaluable. It clarified the purpose of this assignment and provided further support for any future work.

Similarly, the next part explains the importance of appropriate language, helps differentiate between formal and informal, as well as provides guides that allow for smooth transition within written work. This appears to be a vital part of the course, as different cultures have different expectations, making it easy to make mistakes.

The next part of the course approaches the subject of appropriate sources, providing guidelines and explanations why certain sources are more, or less appropriate. Further to this it also explains the difference between primary and secondary sources and introduces the participant to the aspect of images and objects.

The seventh part of the module deals with image analysis and active listening. Explaining in detail the skill of active listening, its necessity as well as provides guides on how to improve it. The module allows the students to assess whether they have something to improve on, or not, if not, it provides gentle reminders that can be helpful for participations in lectures and seminars. Image analysis can be perceived as easy, but plays crucial role in understanding the past, therefore information about it is valuable to every new student.

The eighth part of the module introduces the last of new information over the course of this module. It explains the aspect of visuals within presentations and appropriate use of PowerPoint software to maximise the benefits one can gain from implementing it in their work. Sadly, the lecture part appears yet to be uploaded at the time of writing this essay.

To conclude, as explained above, the module is very helpful for anyone accessing it, well prepared, concise and detailed, it includes all the information necessary to successfully begin academic journey.

Bibliography:

Attala, L., n.d. *UWTSD Moodle 2021/22* [online] Moodle.uwtsd.ac.uk. Available at:
<<https://moodle.uwtsd.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=8357>> [Accessed 13 November 2021].