This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Unit code</strong></th>
<th>LAN101</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unit name</strong></td>
<td>Grammar and Rhetoric</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Associated higher education awards** | Diploma of Liberal Arts: Foundations of Learning  
Diploma of Liberal Arts: Foundations of Wisdom  
Bachelor of Arts in the Liberal Arts  |
| **Duration**        | One semester    |
| **Level**           | Introductory    |
| **Unit Coordinator**| To be advised   |
| **Core/Elective**   | Core            |
| **Weighting**       | Unit credit points: 10 credit points  
Total course credit points:  
Diploma of Liberal Arts: Foundations of Learning 80 credit points  
Diploma of Liberal Arts: Foundations of Wisdom 80 credit points  
Bachelor of Arts in the Liberal Arts 240 credit points |
| **Student workload**| Face-to-face on-site  
Timetabled hours 39  
Personal study hours 111  
**Total workload hours** 150  
Students requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional one hour per week.  
In order to be considered for a passing grade, students must attend at least 80% of class sessions. |
| **Delivery mode**   | Face-to-face on-site |
| **Pre-requisites/Co-requisites/Restrictions** | Nil |
| **Rationale**       | John of Salisbury wrote, “Grammar is the cradle of all philosophy, and in a manner of speaking, the first nurse of the whole study of letters.” An introduction to grammar and rhetoric is essential to a liberal arts education, for language is an essential foundation for learning to think, read, write and speak well. Using language well can assist students to think about and express themselves more clearly in everyday matters.  
In the first few weeks of this unit, grammar will be studied both in terms of rules/conventions for using words to express thought and reflection upon the ability of words to reveal reality. The goal is to help students develop an understanding of the nature of language in general, its inner structure, and its use as a tool of discourse, be it written or spoken. Students will acquire tools of learning to pursue wisdom by studying the proper use of verb tense and form, number, punctuation and other points of grammar. |
The second half of the unit will focus on rhetoric—the art of eloquent expression—what Aristotle identified as the primary art of the active life (in contrast to the contemplative life). In this part of the unit, students will reflect on the nature of rhetoric and discuss its various modes and techniques. These foundations of language will be taught using some of the great written works of the Western tradition, with the goal of training students how to handle words with precision and accuracy and how to communicate effectively. Students will also practice rhetorical skills by creating and performing their own rhetorical discourses (including speeches and debates). Finally, students will ponder the abuse of words, the Platonic criticisms against mere “rhetoric,” and the relationship of rhetoric to the good life.

**Prescribed text(s)**


**Recommended readings**

McEntyre, M C 2009, *Caring for Words in a Culture of Lies*, Wm B Eerdmans, Grand Rapids, MI.

**Specialist resources requirements**

Nil

**Content**

1. Introduction to Grammar; Tenses
2. Verbs (Active, Passive, Phrasal)
3. Articles, Nouns, Pronouns
4. Adjectives, Adverbs, Conjunctions, Prepositions
5. Modals, Relative Clauses
6. Introduction to Rhetoric; Ethos, Pathos, Logos
7. Invention
8. Organization/Arrangement
9. Style (Rhythm, Cadence, Diction)
10. Elocution (Quality, Force, Pitch, Movement, Stress, Intervals)
11. Prepared Speech and Debate
Learning outcomes

On completion of this unit, students will have:

1. Identified and comprehended technical knowledge of English grammar and rhetoric;
2. Articulated the role of the *logos* (Word) in the Bible and the importance of both written and spoken forms of communication in a Christian worldview;
3. Grasped the importance of clarity in expression and understand how to achieve such clarity through the choice, organisation, and delivery of words;
4. Analysed sample texts to identify and correct grammatical errors;
5. Applied knowledge of grammar and rhetoric to write and speak clearly, concisely, coherently, and persuasively in various contexts;
6. Applied knowledge of the basic canons of classical rhetoric to the challenges of communicating effectively in today’s world; and
7. Communicated at an appropriate tertiary standard with special attention to correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing and presentation.

Assessment tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task 1: Short Papers</th>
<th>Word Length/Duration: 3 x 1,000 words each</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weighting:</td>
<td>45% (15% each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning Outcomes:</td>
<td>1-3, 5-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessed:</td>
<td>Weeks 4, 7, 10</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task 2: Examination</th>
<th>Word Length/Duration: 90 minutes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weighting:</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning Outcomes:</td>
<td>1, 3-5, 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessed:</td>
<td>Week 9</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task 3: Prepared Speech or Debate</th>
<th>Word Length/Duration: 10 minutes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weighting:</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Outcomes:</td>
<td>3, 5-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessed:</td>
<td>Weeks 11-13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unit Summary

This foundational unit in grammar and rhetoric is essential to a liberal arts education, for language is an essential foundation for learning to think, read, write and speak well. The goal is to help students develop an understanding of the nature of language in general, its inner structure, and its use as a tool of discourse, be it written or spoken.