Wondering where to get personalized help with their academic communication skills? We work with you one-on-one, offering general writing and other communication skill advice that you can apply to a variety of courses. We’re easy to find in the library: walk through the front doors, down the main floor hallway, and turn right at the blue EDGE banner.

Whether you’re just getting started with their assignment and need help understanding the instructions or whether you’ve completed your draft and want to refine it, we’re here to help! Drop in for schedule updates or email Nancy at cacmgr@uvic.ca

STUDENT APPOINTMENTS, SEPTEMBER 4 TO DECEMBER 13 (10am to 4pm Monday to Friday)

Use online schedule (https://uvic.mwyconline.com) to book two 25-minute appointments each week. We can help with

- Academic writing skills
  - Getting started (understanding your assignment)
  - Prewriting and planning
  - Drafting, revising, and self-editing strategies
- Reading skills
  - Reading quickly
  - Reading for research
  - Critical reading
- Presentation skills
  - Preparation
  - Delivery
  - Pronunciation
- Speaking skills
  - Pronunciation of discipline-specific vocabulary
  - Communicating in groups

DISTANCE APPOINTMENTS
Distance appointments are for students who cannot visit the CAC in person. This support is offered via 48-hour written feedback or real-time. For more information, please see “online” under “We can help” on https://www.uvic.ca/cac.

ACADEMIC COMMUNICATION LEARNING PLANS
An academic communication learning plan provides a structured set of activities based on co-created learning outcomes to help you reach your goals. Work with a member of the CAC either in person or online to develop a personalized plan that fosters development of particular academic communication skills. For more information, please email cacmgr@uvic.ca

ENGLISH CAFÉ (ACCESS) (3 to 4pm Thursdays, September 12 to December 12, Library 151b)
The Academic Critical Communication in English Seminar Series (ACCESS/English Café) is an opportunity for all UVic students with English as an additional language to improve their ability to read and communicate in English within an academic context. Participants will practice reading and discussion skills in a relaxed atmosphere, receive coaching on vocabulary use and pronunciation, and get tips for developing confidence with reading and speaking. Please contact caceal4@uvic.ca

WRITING SUPPORT FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS
Grad Writing Room (CAC-supported) (10 to 1pm Fridays, September 6 to December 13 Library 151b)

INDIVIDUAL “LEARN ABOUT...” WORKSHOPS FOR STUDENTS, BY APPOINTMENT
Students needing a review of foundational academic communication skills can drop by the CAC or email cacmgr@uvic.ca to make an appointment for a customized “Learn About” on critical reading, listening and note-taking, presentation skills, pronunciation strategies, and academic writing.

WORKSHOPS (Undergraduate student audience, but all welcome!)
Reading Strategies (2 to 3:10pm, October 2, Library 130)
Does reading for your courses and research take much of your time? Do you find yourself spending hours trying to understand academic texts? This session will offer practical tips to help you read more efficiently and remember what you’ve read. For information, contact Kaveh at eal2@uvic.ca

The Art of the Argument: How to Write Persuasive Academic Prose (3:15 to 4:30pm, October 2, Library 130)
This workshop provides strategies for critically engaging with academic sources. Participants will learn how to identify the rhetorical features of sourced material and formulate counterarguments to the position advanced. For more information, contact Emily at caceal4@uvic.ca
Strong Sentences: Polishing Grammar, Word Choice, and Clarity (2 to 3:10pm, October 9, Library 130)
This workshop focuses on how to balance your sentences for length and variety while using the best possible words and phrases to express your ideas. You’ll learn about sentence types and ways to connect the dots efficiently and clearly. For information, contact Gillian at eal1@uvic.ca

“Who Is Doing What?” Why Strong Writers Use an Active Voice (3:15 to 4:30pm, October 9, Library 130)
Need tips for how to write clear and concise prose using an active voice? Participants will learn what the active voice means, then practice easy-to-apply methods for making passive sentences active. For more information, contact Emily at caceal4@uvic.ca

Understanding the Assignment (2 to 3:10pm, October 16, Library 130)
This workshop helps participants determine what “instruction verbs” mean. For example, we’ll look at the difference between “discuss” and “argue.” For more information, contact Charlotte at caceal3@uvic.ca

Critical Thinking: Academic Reading and Writing (3:15 to 4:30pm, October 16, Library 130)
Critical thinking skills are crucial for your academic work. This hands-on workshop will review fundamental critical thinking skills in the context of academic reading and writing. For information, contact Kaveh at eal2@uvic.ca

Writing the Research Paper: Integrating Paraphrases and Summaries (3:15 to 4:30pm, October 30, Library 130)
How do we write paragraphs when we are incorporating others’ ideas? Join us to look at examples and practice a few strategies. For information, contact Charlotte at caceal3@uvic.ca

WORKSHOPS (Graduate student audience, but all welcome!)
Walk the Walk and Talk the Talk: Confident Communication with the CAC (9:30 to 11am, September 25, HHB 128)
In this workshop, TAs will conduct a self-assessment, learn how they can develop their communication skills with help from the CAC, and become ever more effective communicators in the classroom, during office hours, and while giving feedback on assignments.

Effective PowerPoint: Strategies for Teaching (10 to 11:30am, October 7, HHB 128)
Participants will learn about all stages of preparing PowerPoint content in the most effective way possible for the classroom. This workshop provides practical guidelines and information on how to positively impact students’ learning.

Pronunciation Clinic (11:30 to 1pm, October 16, HHB 128)
This session will give a quick overview of the main challenges for English language learners when it comes to understanding others and being understood. Students will learn proven techniques and methods for improving pronunciation through practice.

Challenges of Listening Comprehension in the Classroom (3 to 4:15pm, October 22, HHB 128)
This session provides some tips on how to better understand classroom speech delivered in a variety of English accents, styles, and speeds. We will discuss different challenging listening situations in the classroom and practice techniques to increase listening comprehension in those situations.

Writing about Data (2 to 3:10pm, October 30, Library 130)
Drawing from Swales and Feak’s text Academic Writing for Graduate Students, this workshop offers graduate students options for incorporating data and results into their sentences/paragraphs. For more information, contact Nancy at cacmgr@uvic.ca

Shoved in a Drawer and Lost to the World: How to Publish Your Work (3:15 to 4:30pm, November 6, Library 130)
Are you aspiring to publish your paper, thesis, or dissertation? Participants will learn how to select a reputable publisher, revise their prose for submission, and respond to reviewer feedback. For more information, contact Emily at caceal4@uvic.ca

Effective Presentations (2 to 3:10pm, November 6, Library 130)
Participants will learn about preparing for and delivering a presentation, as well as tips and strategies for managing stress, appearing confident, and presenting content in the most effective way possible. For more information, contact Kaveh at eal2@uvic.ca

Literature Review Workshop (2 to 3:10pm, November 20, Library 130)
This workshop will cover the purpose of the literature review, options for organization, and key strategies for retaining your voice while presenting the ideas of others. For more information, contact Nancy at cacmgr@uvic.ca