Developing a communications skills framework:
Writing, speaking, critical information literacy, and interpersonal skills development

Denise Chalmers
Director, Centre for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning (CATL)
denise.chalmers@uwa.edu.au

Siri Barrett-Lennard
English Language and Study Skills Adviser, Student Services

Nancy Longnecker
Coordinator, Science Communication Program, Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences

Review of UWA Course Structures Rec 12

That every undergraduate major include at least one unit with an explicit focus on oral and written communication skills.
UWA Communication Skills Framework

• Conceptual schema: coherent, incremental, explicit & cyclical
• Flexible
• On web: http://www.catl.uwa.edu.au/projects/communication_skills_framework
Criteria for implementation

1. One unit with a communication skills focus as a minimum
2. Any level
3. Progressive development*
4. Explicit (content, assessment, t & l activities)
5. Four dimensions
6. Taught by staff with expertise
7. Integrated in discipline
# UWA Communication Skills Framework

Level of development across the curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimension</th>
<th>Beginning</th>
<th>Developing</th>
<th>Advanced</th>
<th>Professional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Writing skills</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Oral and presentation skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Critical information literacy skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Interpersonal skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Students demonstrate <strong>writing</strong> that is clear, well structured and appropriate to audience and purpose</td>
<td>Demonstrate and reflect on a limited range of basic <strong>writing</strong> concepts and skills <strong>within</strong> an area of study with extensive structured guidance</td>
<td>Demonstrate and reflect on a moderate range of competent <strong>writing</strong> concepts and skills <strong>within</strong> an area of study with limited structured guidance</td>
<td>Demonstrate and reflect on an extensive range of advanced <strong>writing</strong> concepts and skills <strong>within and beyond</strong> the area of study with little or no structured guidance.</td>
<td>Demonstrate and reflect on a comprehensive range of professional <strong>writing</strong> concepts and skills <strong>in professional contexts</strong> with no structured guidance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Using handout of full framework

• Groups
  1. Writing
  2. Speaking
  3. Critical information literacy
  4. Interpersonal skills development

• Left hand column:
  – Comments and thoughts (any gaps)?
  – Usefulness for your context?