

LANG3021 Science Communication in English (Math)

Course Content

Phase 1. Story-telling for Science/Math Communication

Students will understand the importance of science communication and the role of story-telling therein, develop and apply appropriate strategies to make their own communication of science/math (at professional levels) interesting as well as accessible to lay audience. Students develop such skills and strategies by analysing popular science articles and presentations that address the general public, also by practising and integrating feedback in and outside of the classroom.

Key Learning Objectives:

- Identify good features of engaging pop science articles/videos/blogs
- Apply storytelling techniques to communicate math concepts
- Craft clear and engaging explanations
- Use anchor texts in citations to create emphasis in written communication

Phase 2. Communicating Controversies about Mathematics

Students will explore public attitudes to controversies regarding mathematics and learn to communicate such controversies through public speaking. Students will develop skills to read critically and speak effectively about maths controversies to lay audiences in an interesting and engaging way. Some of these skills are covered in **Phase 1**, and students will develop these skills further in **Phase 2**.

Key Learning Objectives:

- Analyse and explain issues/controversies about Mathematics
- Apply pop-science style and language to spoken genres
- Integrate persuasive strategies to increase audience and content engagement

Course Pedagogy

The course adopts a genre-based approach, using genres specific to conveying mathematical ideas to the public. To help students firmly grasp genre knowledge, styles, and language use, the course uses learning portfolio and provides flipped and in-class

practices for students to explore and acquire specific communication skills that they wish to develop for personal-professional pursuits.

Course Assessment

Writing Assignment	Telling the development of a math idea like a story (to inspire interest)
Speaking Assignment 1	A podcast about a controversial math(-related) issue (to explore alternative perspectives)
Speaking Assignment 2	A TED Talk on a math(-related) controversy (to influence audience)
Tutorial Discussion	Communication plans to design content and contextualize rhetorical skills
Learning Portfolio & Critical Reflection	A short document that features critical writing to evaluate and make sense of learning