Academic Writing Workshop
Open University

Proposal for Programme Content

DAY ONE

Morning: 3 hours (with a ten minute break)
- Introduction. General observations from the writing samples previously sent; exchange of opinions about most common difficulties.
- Discussion and questionnaire on peer/self assessment
- The process of developing an argument efficiently, purpose of different drafts
- Creating structure: thesis statement, topic sentences, linking ideas, signposting, driving the argument (with handouts)

Afternoon: 2 hours (with a ten minute break)
- Practical work on extracts of text for structure and signposting
- Writing style – obfuscation or clarification: things to avoid; some techniques to use

DAY TWO

Morning: 3 hours (with a 10 min break)
- Writing for publication; addressing different audiences; register
- Peer assessment guidelines for different stages in the process
- Discussion and questions so far

Afternoon: 2 hours (with a 10 min break)
- Integrated practice for structuring, style and peer feedback/self editing
- Conclusion and review

Angela Duthie lived in Spain for twenty five years teaching English phonetics to undergraduates, running presentation and writing training courses for teachers, voice workshops for academics, actors and business professionals. She now divides her time between writing, editing academic texts and teaching courses, mainly for international academics or teachers.