MTHATHA LEARNING CENTRE

ACADEMIC LITERACIES SERVICES

Our Academic Literacies Services support Unisa students - from undergraduate to doctoral level in any discipline - who aim to develop their literacies practices in the following areas:

- academic language
- quantitative literacy (academic numeracy)
- information literacy
- learning literacy (study skills)

Mthatha Learning Centre currently has 2 face-to-face Quantitative Literacy facilitators to assist both the undergraduate and postgraduate students. Unfortunately, the centre is still waiting for the appointment of the Reading and Writing facilitator.

Please note that the Academic Literacy facilitators are independent contractors. It means they are not always available at the centre but only come as per schedule that they have agreed on with the centre. Students are required to make bookings to see the facilitators at Room 36, or phone at 047 504 1305, or send an email to, MTH-Tutorials@unisa.ac.za.

Undergraduate students

The Reading and Writing Service will support you in developing your reading proficiency for academic purposes and writing practices for assessment and learning. We offer one-to-one consultations where our facilitator will guide you to:

- read with greater understanding
- analyse and understand assignment questions
- brainstorm and compile assignment outlines
- obtain feedback on your first and successive drafts of assignment answers
- practise self-editing for grammatical and surface errors.

In addition, workshops take place throughout the semester to increase your chances of achieving academic success.

Note: We advise students to make use of the online Reading and Writing services, refer to the notice below.

The AcaLit Digital Program is an independent, self-paced, online learning programme to introduce undergraduate students to academic reading and writing at university level. Its focus areas are:

- Academic reading
- Academic writing
- Study skills
- Information literacy and research skills
- Digital skills development.

Please request access to the program by sending an e-mail to aLitDig@unisa.ac.za.
Postgraduate students

The Research Writing Service supports postgraduate students to become proficient in developing advanced reading strategies and by coaching them in all stages of their writing:
- honours students: research reports
- master’s students: proposals and dissertations
- doctoral students: theses, abstracts, conference presentations and papers, and articles for academic journals.

Please note that this service will be provided by the Reading and Writing facilitator. This is not an editing service. The facilitator will start by looking at your writing holistically, provide feedback on your drafts, and work towards developing your proficiency and confidence as an academic research writer.

Consultations with the Research
Writing facilitator are usually by appointment to ensure that you, as a postgraduate student, receive their undivided attention.

The Quantitative Literacy Service provides students in all disciplines and at any undergraduate level the opportunity to consult one-to-one with a facilitator about. Workshops - both general and module-specific - are offered throughout the semester which address critical aspects of quantitative literacy.

The Acalit@unisa Hotline

Should you prefer to consult our facilitators by e-mail, you’re welcome to use the acalit@unisa Hotline. You may pose any questions you have about reading, writing, learning strategies and academic numeracy that crop up while you engage with your learning materials, assignments and exam preparation.

Postgraduate students are welcome to submit no more than 25 pages of their writing at a time for feedback.

Our response time is three working days for undergraduate queries, and five working days for feedback on postgraduate students’ writing.

The e-mail address for the Hotline is acalit@unisa.ac.za

For more information about the Academic Literacies Services, visit www.unisa.ac.za/acalit or contact your nearest Unisa regional centre.