Research Seminars 2017/18

Stenden University Qatar

Research Seminar 18

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Qatar

Writing Centers in Higher Education Institutions in Qatar: A Critical Review

Abstract

English writing constitutes a problem to most non-native speakers of English and Qatari students are not an exception. To help overcome these writing problems, a writing center in each university branch was established to help students develop their English writing skills and be able to pursue their university studies in English competently. This research critically reviews the writing centers in ten higher education institutions in Qatar: eight European branch campuses in Qatar and two public higher education institutions. This research compares the reviewed writing centers in terms of their purpose of establishment and cost, and contrasts them in terms of their given names, timing and hours of service, the different venues for booking an appointment, and the services offered in each center. The reviewed writing centers are unique and show a variety of flexible services aimed at enhancing students' English writing based on students' needs and levels.

Biography

Dr. Abdelhamid Ahmed is a lecturer at the Core Curriculum Program, Qatar University, Qatar. He obtained his PhD degree in Education (Applied Linguistics/TESOL) at the Graduate School of Education, University of Exeter, UK. His areas of research expertise include English writing difficulties, cohesion & coherence, socio-cultural context, writing assessment, electronic feedback, academic writing, argumentative writing, reflective journals, and writing centres. He has substantial knowledge of and experience in qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods research paradigms. Moreover, he presented in international conferences in UK, USA, Canada, Spain, Egypt, UAE, and Qatar. He is experienced in teaching English courses at the university level in Egypt, UK and Qatar.

Date: 31 January 2018 (4-5pm)

Venue: Room 200, Stenden University Qatar