Developing Academic Literacy in Context (DALiC)

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Background
Teaching academic literacy within disciplinary curricula across the university is an educational strategy that has earned Learning Development at UOW a significant reputation, in Australia and overseas, for its innovation and positive impact on students’ skill development, success and retention rates.

Aims & Partners
This project aims to compare our approach to tertiary literacy development to strategies used internationally, and to pilot the implementation of our strategies and resources in a number of other universities. Partners in this endeavour are Dr Lisa Ganobcsik-Williams at University of Coventry; Sally Mitchell at Queen Mary, University of London; Dr Caroline Coffin at Open University; Femke Kramer at University of Groningen; Professor David Russell at Iowa State University; Professor Jonathon Monroe at Cornell University and Professor Andrea Lunsford at Stanford University.

Benefits
• benchmarking UOW practice in this field
• publication of results in international education and composition journals
• development of research programme and application for further external funding
• strengthening relationships with high-quality research institutions
• enhancing the University’s international reputation in this area
Teaching academic skills within disciplinary curricula is a teaching strategy that has earned Learning Development/UOW a significant reputation because of its positive impact on skill development, and the success and retention rates of large numbers of students. This project aims to compare our strategy and its outcomes to those used internationally. The benefits would be threefold: it will facilitate a pilot implementation of our strategy in other educational contexts; it will enable benchmarking of UOW practice in this field; and it will further enhance the University’s international reputation by strengthening embryonic alliances with key researchers and practitioners in the field at the Open University and the Universities of Coventry, London, Groningen, Iowa State, Cornell and Stanford. It will also provide the groundwork for a future ARC Grant application.