



Paraphrase and "Direct Quotation": The Use of Evidence-based Citations

Dr. John Martino

Date: November 20, 2025 (Thursday)

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. & 2:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.

Venue: Main Campus, HKU

Overview

The workshop will build on the importance of evidence-based argumentation by focusing on the use of paraphrase and direct quotation to anchor and support one's own ideas with those from authoritative outside/secondary sources. Via in-class exercises, students will practice their own paraphrasing and use of direct quotation skills. The structure, content, and writing of the Discussion section of a thesis/dissertation and/or article-for-publication will also be reviewed, with particular attention paid to the Discussion's opening paragraph.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the workshop, students should be able to:

- Understand the meaning and academic repercussions of plagiarism and why it needs to be avoided
- Understand the difference between "direct quotation" and paraphrase and when to use each
- More effectively paraphrase outside source material in their manuscripts
- Understand the structure and purpose of a well-organized Discussion Section
- Craft an effective opening paragraph for the Discussion Section of their manuscript
- Apply various revision strategies to their writing

Learning Activities

Students will practice their own paraphrasing skills and use of direct quotation via in-class exercises. Proper in-text citation of sources, the construction of a References/Works Cited page, and an overview on plagiarism will also be discussed. Students will be encouraged to submit in advance the "opening paragraph" of the Discussion section of their thesis/article-for-publication to be used as in-class models for writing and revising strategies.

About the Instructor

Dr. John Martino, Ph.D., was the Associate Professor of Extended English for International Students at Fisher College in Boston, Massachusetts, USA, prior to relocating to Hong Kong. Also a certified Teacher of English as a Foreign Language, Dr. Martino has worked with international English language learners for over 20 years, assisting them in their L2 English development as writers, speakers, readers, and critical thinkers. Additionally, he is a poet and photographer, whose creative work has appeared in numerous publications, including *The Boston Globe*, *New Orleans Review*, *North Dakota Quarterly*, and *Connotation Press: An Online Artifact*.