



UNIVERSITY OF
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The University Teaching and Learning Office

Cordially invites you to

Undoing deficit-based language ideologies: critical reflections from a foundation-level academic literacies course



13h30 – 15h00



23 July 2026



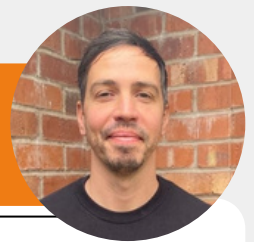
Virtual Via Teams

ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

This webinar offers a critically reflective account of an introductory academic writing course for a diverse foundation-level UK university cohort, including multilingual, refugee-background and mature learners. Despite their different trajectories, a shared tension is that their day-to-day language practices can be framed as in need of remediation to conform to academic communication norms underpinned by exclusionary language ideologies rooted in anglocentrism, monolingualism, white normativity, ableism and classism. Drawing on critical EAP (Benesch, 2001), anti-deficit (García et al., 2021) and raciolinguistic perspectives (Flores & Rosa, 2015), the course pursued the dual aim of building students' confidence in academic writing whilst examining how dominant academic language norms can reproduce linguistic hierarchies. This interactive webinar shares examples of teaching materials and reflections on how students engaged with this critical approach. Participants are invited to discuss possibilities and challenges for critical, anti-deficit and anti-racist approaches to academic literacies in their own institutional contexts.

MEET THE FACILITATOR

MR WIL HARDMAN



Mr Wil Hardman is an academic literacies practitioner at the University of Liverpool. His scholarship focuses on critical, decolonial and anti-racist approaches to language pedagogy, with a particular interest in challenging deficit-based framings of students' language practices and supporting students to bring their full identities into academic spaces. He is also Convenor of the BALEAP EAP for Social Justice Special Interest Group.

IN COLLABORATION WITH:

SARChI (South African Research Chairs Initiative) Peace and Justice Education

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