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# Writing the Background Chapters of Your Thesis

Speaker

Dr Brian Paltridge

Faculty of Education and Social Work  
University of Sydney

1 Feb 2007 (Thur)  
10:30am- 12:00 noon  
T6, Meng Wah  
Complex

## Abstract

This presentation discusses issues to consider in writing the background chapters for a thesis or dissertation. This includes writing the literature review and chapters which describe the theoretical framework to a study. Areas covered include steps and strategies in writing the literature review, reading, summarizing and critiquing previous research, reporting on previous research and adopting a stance towards previous research. Techniques for paraphrasing and summary writing are also discussed.

**Dr Brian Paltridge** is Associate Professor in TESOL at the University of Sydney. He is author of *Genre, Frames and Writing in Research Settings* (John Benjamins, 1997), *Making Sense of Discourse Analysis* (AEE Publishers, 2000), *Genre and the Language Learning Classroom* (University of Michigan Press, 2001), *Discourse Analysis* (Continuum, 2006), and with Sue Starfield, *Thesis and Dissertation Writing in a Second Language* (Routledge, 2007). He is a member of the editorial board for the *Journal of English for Academic Purposes* and the *Australian Review of Applied Linguistics*. With Diane Belcher, he is editor of the journal *English for Specific Purposes*. He is presently writing a book on teaching academic writing with colleagues from the University of Sydney, to be published by the University of Michigan Press.



All are welcome.

Enquiries: 2857 3470

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