

APPROACHING THE STUDY OF ACADEMIC WRITING:

A BRIEF BIBLIOGRAPHIC REVIEW OF RESEARCH AND RESEARCH QUESTIONS

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The topic of academic writing is broad and surprisingly ill-defined, (and/or its definition is the subject of controversy) given that so many of us are involved in teaching it, studying it, and doing it ourselves. However, this essay smooths over the fact that there are on-going debates over whether or not a single genre of “academic writing” actually exists, how writing at university levels should be studied, how it should be taught and who should teach it, and how different approaches should be classified. Instead studies of academic writing which have been carried out (mainly concerning the writing of students) are mentioned and research questions and an extensive (but hardly exhaustive) bibliography are presented.