The following prepositions are the ones most commonly used in academic writing. You may like to add to the list as you come across more prepositions in your own reading.

**ABOUT/CONCERNING**
- comments about
- a conference about
- data about
- a debate about
- issues about
- a lecture about
- legislation about
- a policy about
- research about
- statistics about
- a theory about
- a thesis about
- to worry about

**AGAINST**
- discriminated against

**AS**
- to conceive of something as
- to emerge as
- to identify someone/something as
- to perceive something as
- its status as

**AT**
- at the end of the semester
- to estimate something at
- at fault
- at a university
- at the x level

**BETWEEN**
- a comparison between
- a connection between
- a contrast between
- a differentiation between
- an interaction between
- a partnership between

**BY**
- allocation by
- followed by
- offset by
- preceded by

**FOR**
- adequate for
- to apply for something
- appropriate for
- available for
- a capacity for someone
- a challenge for someone
- compensation for
- a contract for
- criteria for
- difficult for someone to do something
- imperative for someone to do something
- to have implications for
- an incentive for -ing
- a justification for
- a mechanism for -ing
- a need for
- an option of someone
- to prepare someone for
- a problem for someone
- problematic for someone
- responsible for
- scope for
- strategies for
- to be suitable for
- a tendency for someone to do something
- for a year (e.g. statistics for 2004)

**FROM**
- derived from
- a deviation from
- to discourage someone from doing something
- excluded from
- protected from
- removed from

**IN**
- in the area of
- in conformity with
- in a university department
- to engage in
- an error in
- to have experience in
- in . . . field/sphere
- to fill in

**OF**
- accused of
- an analysis of something
- to analyse something
- ashamed of
- an awareness of
- on behalf of
- capable of -ing
- composed of something
- to conceive of something (as)
- constraints of
- critical of
- a definition of something

**INTO**
- to conduct research into
- integration into
- an investigation into

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**INTO**
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- integration into
- an investigation into
to define something
evidence of
an extract of
a fear of something
a guarantee of
an implication of
the importance of
an incidence of
an indication of
indicative of something / to indicate something
of interest to
an instance of
issues of
a limitation of
to make use of
an objective of
on the part of
proud of
of relevance to
the scope of
a source of
the status of
a survey of
a theory of
to be unaware of
(in) violation of
a vision of

a questionnaire on
a reliance on
to rely on
to do research on
to put/lay stress on someone/to stress something
a thesis on

To

to have access to
acustomed to
adjacent to
an adjustment to something
to adjust something
allocate something to
an amendment to something
to amend something
analogous to
to be apparent to something
to apply to something
an approach to
appropriate to (do) something
an alternative to
an attitude to/towards
a challenge to something
to challenge something
a commitment to
committed to
confined to
to consent to
a contribution to
corresponding to
devoted to
due to
equivalent to
exposure to
external to something
fundamental to
grateful to
important to something
identical to
inherent to
intrinsic to
know n/unknown to
to object to
obvious to
prior to
proportionate to
a reaction to
related to
relevant to
reluctant to
resistant to
restricted to
significant to
similar to
specific to
subordinate to
subsequent to
supplementary to
to transfer to

WITH

to agree with
to argue with something about something
associated with
to coincide with
compared with
(in)compatible with
current with
in conformity with
to be consistent with
to deal with
familiar with
to identify with someone/thing
interaction with
partnership with
to provide someone with something
satisfied with

These words are mostly taken from Coxhead, A, The academic word list, viewed 21 June 2005, <http://massey.ac.nz/staff/awl/sublists.shtml>.

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Prepositions
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