

**SW3—Research Proposal Writing**<http://faculty.ndhu.edu.tw/~caralin/Courses/SciWri/SW3.html>

Wednesdays 9:10-12:00

Environmental Science Building Room B410

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Limit: 8 Students (no audits)

Credit: 3 hours

**Syllabus****Course Summary:**

In this course, we use English to discuss and prepare research proposals or papers for publication in SCI journals. We study the goals and pitfalls of writing the different sections of scientific papers. Students develop their own papers and practice peer review by evaluating the papers of their classmates. This course is designed for students preparing proposals or publishable papers. Grading is based on improvement in writing and participation in discussion. Two textbooks required.

**Prerequisites & Requirements:**

Successful completion of Structure of Scientific Papers.

Student has a paper to write.

**Tentative schedule:**

Date	Lecture Topic	Assignment Due	Discussion Topic
9/7	Scientific Writing, <u>Paraphrasing</u> , Titles, Abstract, <u>Common Boo Boos</u>	In-class writing exercise	
9/14	<u>Outlines</u> , Introduction	Paraphrases, Title, Abstract	Paraphrases
9/21	Journal Instructions	Journal Instructions & Sample Paper, <u>Outline</u>	Abstract, Title & Outline
9/28	Methods, Results, Discussion, References, Tables & Figures*	Revised Outlines (tba) Revised Abstract (tba)	Revised Abstract
10/5	<u>Ethics</u> in writing & research	Part I: Introduction*	Ethics
10/12	Abbreviations, Jargon & Style		Part I
10/19	Editing	Part II: Methods*	Part I
10/26	to be assigned		Part II
11/2	to be assigned	Part III*	Part II
11/9	Acknowledgments		Part III
11/16	NO CLASS – NDHU Sports Day		
11/23	<u>Title Page &amp; Cover Letter</u>	Cover Letter, Title Page, Acknowledgments	Part III
11/30			Part III
12/7	<u>Submission, Review</u> & Publication		Cover Letter, Title Page, Acknowledgments
12/14	Conference talks & poster sessions	<b>Revised Paper</b> <b>Plagiarism guarantees course failure!</b>	
12/21	Discussion of Revised Papers		Revised Paper
12/28	Discussion of Revised Papers		Revised Paper
1/4	Discussion of Revised Papers		Revised Paper

\*Include References, Tables, and Figures where appropriate.

**Research Paper or Proposal:** You will prepare your research proposal OR a scientific paper in a format suitable for publication in a journal in your research field OR a review paper in a format suitable for publication.

**Discussion Labs:** One week before the scheduled discussion, provide paper copies of your work to me and to your lab mates. Electronic copies (disk or email) are not acceptable. Preparation for lab includes reviewing and revising classmates' assignments. Labs are devoted to discussing and evaluating each student's work.

**Required Texts:**

- Day, Robert A. 1999. How to Write & Publish a Scientific Paper. 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Cambridge University Press.
- Shunk, W. Jr., E.B. White & R. Angell. 2000. The Elements of Style. 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. Pearson Allyn & Bacon.
- Author guidelines for the journal to which you would like to submit your paper.

**Grading:** Grades are based on writing (50%) and participation in discussion (50%).

**Course Policy:**

- If you have problems meeting deadlines and assignments, you must inform me immediately. Your problems will affect everyone in the class.
- You must do your own work.
- **Plagiarism is penalized by course failure. This includes copying from classmates, advisors, and co-authors. This includes copying things like words, ideas, data, graphs, tables, figures, maps, and photographs.**
- **Images copied with permission of copyright holder must be presented with a printed copy of the permission.**
- Bring to each class all references cited in your paper..
- Papers already submitted for publication are not permitted as a writing project for this class.