

Welcome to the course on Research Writing.

Writing research papers, proposals and reports is an important part of being a graduate student. It also gives you skills that are very useful in work life --- for example when writing reports in a company. Writing clearly is important if you are to communicate your message clearly. It is also helps to show the effort and dedication that you have given to a particular project or assignment.

This course is designed to walk you through all the main parts of a journal or conference style publication. The step-by-step approach covers the main points you should include in each section of your publication. We will also touch on issues related to managing your publications; such as, writing submission letters.

During the course you will:

- How to organize a publication.
- Understand the main concepts or ideas that you should write about in each section of a publication.
- Learn key phrases to write up each section.
- Practice drafting sections of a publication.
- Improve all aspects of your communication skills.

Course materials

- We will use:
 - ◆ “Writing Science. How to write papers that get cited and proposals that get funded” by Schimel. ISBN 978-0-19-976023-7
 - ◆ “Quick Research Papers. Writing effective research papers, proposals and reports” by Warden et al. ISBN: 978-0-9799042-4-0
- Other references and materials will be provided during the class.
- We will use the website: <http://qrp.qbook.org> for assignments.

Course teaching approach

We will meet and discuss the topics each week. Pre-reading of the book is important along with the examples that I assign.

Assessment

The course will be assessed as follows:

Action	Percentage of course credit	Notes
Class participation	10%	
Two unannounced quizzes	10%	☺ Multiple choice
Assignments	70%	☺ Uploaded to the system
Summary presentation	10%	☺ Made at the end of the course

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Topics	Reading¹	Notes
1.	Introduction to the course: the book, the online system. Key sections in a journal paper.	Please get the book and get become familiar with it. You should also register with the online system.	
2.	Introduction & background	Schimel C4 Warden C2 & 3	
3.	Research motivation and objectives	Schimel C4 Warden C4 & 5	
4.	Literature review	Schimel C2 Warden C6	
5.	Methodology	Warden C7	
6.	Structural issues; creating flow	Schimel C6	
7.	Results	Warden C8	
8.	Writing style - paragraphs	Schimel C11	
9.	Writing style - sentences	Schimel C12	
10.	Discussion	Warden C9	
11.	Conclusion and implications	Warden C10 & 11	
12.	Making sections easier to read	Schimel C3	
13.	Limitations	Schimel C18 Warden C15	
14.	Contribution	Warden C19	
15.	Putting all the parts together (acknowledgements and working on flow)	Schimel C17 Warden C12	
16.	References	Warden C20	
17.	Submission letter	Warden C13	
18.	IN CLASS PRESENTATIONS		