

**Scientific Writing and Publishing
Spring 2014**

Instructors: Jay Piccirillo, M.D. and Karen Dodson

Times: Tuesdays, 4:15-6:15 pm.

Format: Though not required, it is strongly advised that students be working on a manuscript for publication in a biomedical journal while taking this class so that they receive the maximum benefit. This class follows the “flipped” classroom format, where students are expected to read the assigned text before class and come to class prepared to discuss their own work with the goal to have a finished manuscript by the end of the semester. Partnerships will be assigned for the peer review exercises at the end of the semester and each student will be expected to review and provide feedback on their partner’s manuscript.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given with advance notice during class.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is required and students must notify the instructors if they know they will be absent. You are expected to do your best to attend all classes in this course. You will sign in on the roster before or immediately after the session to get credit for attending. You may miss two classes for any reason without penalty, after that you will lose participation points for each missed class. **If you miss more than 4 classes, you will not be able to pass the course.**

Grading: Grades will be given and they will be based on attendance (20%), quiz grades (20%), participation in class (40%) as well as fulfilling all assignments (20%). **Note:** for MSCI degree students, you must receive a “B” for this course for it to count toward the MSCI degree. In particular, a “B-” (with a score of 2.7 on the 4.0 scale) is not a passing grade. Please see the table below for specific grade scores:

A+ (98% to 100%)	B+ (88% to 89%)	C+ (77% to 79%)	D: 69.49% to 59.50%
A (93% to 97%)	B (83% to 87%)	C (73% to 77%)	F: 59.49% to 0%
A- (90% to 92%)	B- (80% to 82%)	C- (70% to 72%)	

- Office Hours: Both instructors will be available during class unless otherwise indicated. Meeting outside of class is at the instructors' discretion.
- Required Reading: Publishing and Presenting Clinical Research, Third Edition Warren S. Browner, MD, MPH (available from Barnes & Noble and Amazon). Chapters will be assigned during classes.
- Peer Review Panel: A peer review exercise will take place in class and all students are expected to participate unless prior notice is given to both instructors.
- Computers: For maximum student discussion and participation, use of open laptop computers or other electronic devices (e.g., iPads, smart phones) is prohibited.

Lectures

- Week 1 Lecture: Library Resources (Kim Lipsey, Angela Hardi)
Assigned reading to prepare for this class: Chapter 9
- Week 2 Lecture: Where to Start: Figures and Tables (JP)
Assigned reading to prepare for this class: Chapters 6 & 7
- Week 3 Lecture: Biomedical Journal Publishing: Strategies for Success
(KD)
Assigned reading to prepare for this class: Chapters 10, 13 & 14
- Week 4 Lecture: Writing the Methods Section (JP)
Assigned reading to prepare for this class: Chapter 4
- Week 5 Lecture: Writing the Results Section (JP)
Assigned reading to prepare for this class: Chapter 5
- Week 6 Lecture: Scholarly Publishing: Factors to Consider When Selecting a
Journal for Publication (Cathy Sarli, Becker Library)
- Week 7 Quiz
- Week 8 Lecture: Writing the Introduction and Discussion Sections (KD)
Assigned reading to prepare for this class: Chapters 3 & 8
- Week 9 Lecture: Abstracts and Titles (KD)
Assigned reading to prepare for this class: Chapter 2
- Week 10 Lecture: TBA
- Week 11 Quiz

Week 12	Nuances of Peer Review (KD) Assigned reading to prepare for this class: Handouts given April 1
Week 13	Review Final Manuscripts for Peer Review Exercise
Week 14	Peer Review Exercise
Week 15	Peer Review Exercise
Week 16	Final Manuscripts Due

Disability Policy: Washington University is committed to providing accommodations and/or services to students with documented disabilities. Students who are seeking support for a disability or a suspected disability should contact the Disability Resource center (DRC) at 5-4062 on the lower level of the Women's Building (drc@dosa.wustl.edu). The DRC is responsible for approving and arranging all accommodations for University students. Students with documented disabilities should speak with the instructor as early as possible.