

## Scientific Writing: FS 517

(2 cr), Fall 2014

**Lectures:** Wed 2:30-4:20 PM

**Lecture Room:** TLC 148

**Professor:** Dr. Carolyn H. Bohach

**Office Location:** Mines 317

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**Teaching Associate:** Connie Muniandy

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**Prerequisites:** None

### Textbook or other resource materials recommended (no required textbooks):

Food Science Journals:

*Journal of Food Science*

*Journal of Agricultural Food Chemistry*

*Journal of Food Protection*

*Journal of Applied and Environmental Microbiology*

Four of the best authors:

E. Allen Foegedin, Fergus Clydesdale, Barry Swanson, or R. John Collier

Day, Robert A. 1998. *How to Write and Publish a Scientific Paper*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed., Oryx Press

Smith, Robert V. 1990. *Graduate Research: A Guide for Students in the Sciences*

The CBE style manual, written by the Council of Biology Editors

### Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment:

1. Become a better scientific/technical writer.
2. Understand the fundamentals of thesis/dissertation, manuscript, and research grant preparation.
3. Be able to use/organize/reference scientific papers.
4. Be able to prepare a scientific poster; write popular articles.

### Grades:

A = 90-100%    B = 80-89%    C = 70-79%    D = 60-69%    F = <60%.

	<u>Points</u>
8 Assignments/ 25 points each:	200
Final thesis/dissertation or manuscript	300
Total:	<u>500</u>

**Reasonable accommodations:** Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability. If you have a disability and may need accommodations to fully participate in this class, please visit the Access Center (Washington Building 217) to schedule an appointment with an Access Advisor or visit the Dean of Students at the University of Idaho. All accommodations MUST be approved through those offices.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is dishonest and is **not** tolerated. If caught using all or portions of a current or former classmate's writing or other sources of information, a grade of "zero" will be given for the exercise. Additional penalties for plagiarism are possible as outlined in the University of Idaho and/or Washington State University Student Handbook.

Week	Course Outline: Topics and Assignments
1 8/27/14	Course Introduction: Why is it so important to write well? Reading and Practice = Good Writing <b>Choose a writing partner</b> <b>Assignment due next week:</b> Select and read <b>three</b> scientific papers Select a course end product: manuscript or thesis/dissertation Select a Journal and find submission guidelines Find departmental guidelines for thesis/dissertation
2 9/3/14	Figures and Tables: What did you measure? Statistical Analysis <b>Semester long Assignment: read one scientific paper in your area of research/week</b> <b>Assignment 1 due:</b> Bring to class: three scientific papers Your own Figure and legend or one Table with footnotes
3 9/10/14	Writing the Results: What did you measure? Statistical Analysis <b>Assignment 2 due:</b> Bring to class your written paragraph describing a Figure or a Table
4 9/17/14	Writing the Methods: How did you measure it? One paragraph/techniques used in the order of Figure and Table presentation <b>Assignment 3 due:</b> Bring to class your one written paragraph describing a method
5 9/24/14	Results and Methods Writing Workshop
6 10/1/14	Results and Methods Writing Workshop By this time, you should have assembled all Results with Figs. and Tables and all Methods for your manuscript or Thesis/Dissertation
7 10/8/14	Writing the Discussion: What does it mean? How does it fit with what is known? <b>Assignment 4 due:</b> One paragraph describing what a Figure or Table means
8 10/15/14	Writing the Introduction: Why is it important to measure what you are measuring and how does it fit into what is known already? Background, Objective, and Hypothesis <b>Assignment 5 due:</b> The first paragraph of the Introduction
9 10/22/14	Writing a Literature Review: Broad coverage of the area of study <b>Assignment 6 due:</b> Outline of a Literature Review
10 10/29/14	Writing the Abstract and the Title <b>Assignment 7 due:</b> The Abstract and the Title of your thesis/dissertation or manuscript
11 11/5/14	References Writing a Grant
12 11/12/14	Thesis/Manuscript Writing Workshop Close-in on your finished product
13 11/19/14	Creating a Scientific Poster
14 11/26/14	<i>Thanksgiving break</i>
15 12/3/14	Writing for the lay public – popular articles <b>Assignment 8 due:</b> Bring a science newspaper article or Scientific American article to class
16 12/10/14	Thesis/Manuscript Writing Workshop <b>Assignment Due:</b> YOUR Finished Product: Thesis/Dissertation/ Manuscript
17 12/17/14	<i>Finals Week</i>