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
E-mail: anbuhkanim@uidaho.edu

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


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%.

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<th>Points</th>
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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.
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Course Outline: Topics and Assignments</th>
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| **1** 8/27/14 | Course Introduction: Why is it so important to write well? Reading and Practice = Good Writing  
**Choose a writing partner**  
**Assignment due next week:** Select and read three 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  
**Semester long Assignment:** read one scientific paper in your area of research/week  
**Assignment 1 due:** 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  
**Assignment 2 due:** 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  
**Assignment 3 due:** 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?  
**Assignment 4 due:** 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  
**Assignment 5 due:** The first paragraph of the Introduction |
| **9** 10/22/14 | Writing a Literature Review: Broad coverage of the area of study  
**Assignment 6 due:** Outline of a Literature Review |
| **10** 10/29/14 | Writing the Abstract and the Title  
**Assignment 7 due:** 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 | *Thanksgiving break* |
| **15** 12/3/14 | Writing for the lay public – popular articles  
**Assignment 8 due:** Bring a science newspaper article or Scientific American article to class |
| **16** 12/10/14 | Thesis/Manuscript Writing Workshop  
**Assignment Due:** YOUR Finished Product: Thesis/Dissertation/Manuscript |
| **17** 12/17/14 | *Finals Week* |