

416133001: Scientific Writing and English for Academic Research

Instructors: Chao Song, Jianquan Liu, and Jihua Wu

Location: Classroom 3 Xinglin Building

Time: Thursday 4:30PM–6:10PM

Office hour: By appointment

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Course description: This course aims to demystify the scientific publishing process and covers the fundamentals of scientific writing. Instructions will focus primarily on techniques for effective scientific writing. The course also touches on research ethics, bibliography management, peer review, and other essential skills for scientific publishing. This course is required for all graduate students in ecology.

Course materials: Lecture slides will be posted online (chaosonglab.github.io/teaching). This course has no required textbooks.

Grading: The course grade will be determined by 1–2 writing assignments.

Schedule: The course schedule is tentative. We will strive to follow the schedule, but it is subject to change depending on the course progress.

Week	Date	Topic	Instructor
2	9/14	An overview of scientific writing	Chao Song
3	9/21	Authorship and research integrity	Chao Song
4	9/28	Writing the introduction section of a paper	Chao Song
5	10/7	Writing the methods section of a paper	Chao Song
6	10/12	Writing the results section of a paper	Chao Song
7	10/19	Writing the discussion section of a paper	Chao Song
8	10/26	Choosing the title and writing the abstract	Chao Song
9	11/2	Structure, paragraph, sentence, and flow	Chao Song
10	11/9	Words, style, and energizing writing	Chao Song
11	11/16	Citation and Bibliography management	Chao Song
12	11/23	Tables, figures and effective presentation	Chao Song
13	11/30	Peer review and responses to comments	Chao Song
14	12/7	Thesis and dissertation writing	Jihua Wu
15	12/14	Strategies for selecting research topic	Jihua Wu
16	12/21	Seminar on selected topic of interest	Jianquan Liu
17	12/28	Seminar on selected topic of interest	Jianquan Liu