

416133001: Scientific Writing and English for Academic Research

Instructors: Chao Song, Jianquan Liu, and Jihua Wu

Location: Classroom 13 Xinglin Building

Online lecture: Tencent Meeting 7079607753

Time: Thursday 4:30PM–6:10PM

Office hour: By appointment

Office: 212B Xiuyun Building

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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, presentation skills, reproducible research, 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 | 9/8 | An overview of scientific writing and publishing | Chao Song |
| 3 | 9/15 | Authorship and research integrity | Chao Song |
| 4 | 9/22 | Writing the introduction section of a paper | Chao Song |
| 5 | 9/29 | Writing the methods section of a paper | Chao Song |
| 6 | 10/6 | Writing the results section of a paper | Chao Song |
| 7 | 10/13 | Writing the discussion section of a paper | Chao Song |
| 8 | 10/20 | Choosing title and writing abstract | Chao Song |
| 9 | 10/27 | Structure, paragraph, sentence, and flow | Chao Song |
| 10 | 11/3 | Words, style, and energizing writing | Chao Song |
| 11 | 11/10 | Designing table and figures | Chao Song |
| 12 | 11/17 | Bibliography management | Chao Song |
| 13 | 11/24 | Reproducible research | Chao Song |
| 14 | 12/1 | Peer review and responses to comments | Chao Song |
| 15 | 12/8 | Effective scientific presentation | Chao Song |
| 16 | 12/15 | Seminar on selected topic of interest | Jihua Wu |
| 17 | 12/22 | Seminar on selected topic of interest | Jianquan Liu |