

A Curriculum for Science Communication

Each workshop is offered twice in the same week at two locations:

Tuesdays in MI 411 & Fridays in Wean 8325 at 4:30 PM

Workshops are self-contained with post-summary handouts and evaluation.

Fall: Presentation

Introduction to Presentation – October 9 & 12

Series overview, organizing and structuring information for clarity and logic.

Graphic Design: Clear Thinking Made Visible – October 23 & 26

Creating and revising persuasive graphics for figures, slides, and posters.

Analysis of the structure of visual argument.

Distilling Your Message – November 6 & 9

Elevator pitch, 3-minute thesis, finding your message.

Telling Science Stories – November 13 & 16

Crafting narrative, navigating detail, public communication, distilling your message.

Crafting Explanations – November 27 & 30

Analysis and construction of explanatory metaphors.

Vocal Delivery – December 4 & 7

Exercises to develop awareness of speed, volume, clarity, verbal tics.

Understanding anxiety and performance.

Spring: Scientific Writing

Developing an Effective Writing Process

Dispelling misconceptions, best practices for writing, giving feedback, and revision.

Understanding Reader Expectation

Learn where readers expect information and how structure affects emphasis.

Anatomy of an Abstract

Analyzing the structure and rhetorical moves of an abstract, practice revision.

Grant Proposals

How readers find the information they need to advocate for your work.

Applying for an NSF-GRFP

Generating an original idea, intellectual merit, broader impacts, personal statements.

Graphic Design: Clear Thinking Made Visible

Creating and revising persuasive graphics for figures, slides, and posters.

Practice and Feedback

Facilitated peer review of journal articles, proposals, NSF-GRFP.

Coherence and Cohesion

Logical flow through linguistic cues that signal emphasis, transition, cause and effect.

Summer: Professional Development

Career Options Within Academia

Making an Individual Development Plan (IDP), how and why to post-doc, getting tenure.

Beyond Academia

Informational interviews, how to transition, what's out there, MyIDP.

My Heart is in the Network

Proper etiquette to build, maintain, and make requests from a network.

Writing a Resume

Analyzing job postings, crafting a targeted resume and CV.

But I Have No skills!

Reframing how you talk about your work, preparing for an interview.