

English for Scientific Communication SNS course held by Adrian Wallwork (e4ac.com)

There are three components to the course. Each seminar will combine at least two of the three components. The lists of topics covered below are not necessarily in the order that they will be dealt with in the lessons. Thus the course includes a mix of writing and presenting skills - these two skills are NOT taught in separate courses but integrated into a single course in order to create more dynamic lessons.

The course teaches not only how to write and present a scientific paper, but also many communication / life skills. These skills are applicable in any language in any situation.

The total number of hours in the course is 22. Around 18 of these hours will be dedicated to writing and presenting, and the remaining to CVs / job interviews.

1) Writing research papers

Students will learn how to:

- increase readability, reduce the number of mistakes made in English, and avoid redundancy
- formulate a sentence respecting the rules of English syntax
- write a title and an abstract that will attract attention and thus be read
- decide what to include in the various parts of the article (abstract, introduction, discussion, etc.)
- choose the correct tenses and the correct style (active or passive, personal or impersonal)
- highlight gap filled, key findings, and overall contribution
- avoid ambiguities due to errors in the use of pronouns, tenses, and keywords
- learn 'hedging' techniques, avoid plagiarism
- deal with editors and referees (emails)

2) Presenting research at international conferences

Students will learn how to:

- design, practise and deliver a well-structured and interesting presentation
- avoid mistakes in English by using simple and short sentences
- decide what to say in each step of the presentation
- improve pronunciation and intonation in English
- gain confidence and overcome nervousness and embarrassment
- attract and retain the attention of listeners
- ensure a memorable take-home message
- deal with the Q&A session

3) CVs and job interviews

Students will learn how to:

- choose a template
- structure each part, including references
- reduce the text to a maximum of three pages
- draft the letter accompanying the CV
- prepare for an interview

PREPARATION FOR THE COURSE

Students will be emailed by Adrian Wallwork with instructions on how to prepare for course.

Preparation involves drafting the first 3-5 slides of presentation on the student's research topic and can be a presentation that he / she has already done. The slides should contain the minimal amount of text possible. Students should also prepare the speech that accompanies the slides.

Calendar

Course 1 (20 h)

Lecture 1: 11 January

Lecture 2: 25 January

Lecture 3: 1 February

Lecture 4: 8 February

Lecture 5: 12 February

Lecture 6: 19 February

Lecture 7: 26 February

Lecture 8: 2 March

Lecture 9: 5 March

Lecture 10: 8 March

Course 2 (20 h)

Lecture 1: 1 April

Lecture 2: 7 April

Lecture 3: 8 April

Lecture 4: 14 April

Lecture 5: 15 April

Lecture 6: 21 April

Lecture 7: 22 April

Lecture 8: 29 April

Lecture 9: 5 May

Lecture 10: 6 May

Course 3 (20 h)

Lecture 1: May 3

Lecture 2: May 4

Lecture 3: May 10

Lecture 4: May 11

Lecture 5: May 17

Lecture 6: May 18

Lecture 7: May 24

Lecture 8: May 25

Lecture 9: May 28

Lecture 10: May 31

Lectures' hour: 2pm – 4pm