

224.4035 – Scientific Writing

Semester B

Course Type: Lectures, seminars and a final conference day

Course Level: Postgraduate (M.Sc. and Ph.D)

Course Overview:

Topics:

1. How to communicate scientific ideas to the community
2. Why and how to write a scientific paper.
3. Detailed discussion of the structure of a standard scientific paper
4. Understanding of the different types of scientific paper and how they differ from one another
5. Truth in scientific communication
6. How to create a poster
7. How not to give a bad lecture
8. Accuracy and precision
9. How to construct a Masters/Ph.D. proposal

Learning Outcomes:

1. The students will understand why and how one communicates scientific ideas to the community
2. They will understand in detail the structure of a scientific paper and the steps involved in writing a standard paper
3. They will understand the differences between various types of paper and what are the trade-offs involved
4. They will know how to write a poster for a meeting
5. They will know how to give a good talk
6. They will understand why it is important to tell the truth in scientific communication
7. They will know how to determine the accuracy and precision of scientific measurement.

Requirements: Marked homework x 2, presentation of poster in class and final written report on the research topic

Grading: Marked homework (20% x 2), presentation of poster in class (20%) and final written report (40%)