

**COMMUNICATING SCIENCE (BSC 6936; 3 credits, 2 credits for workshop)
SYLLABUS FOR LECTURES/WRITING LABS**

Term: Fall 2018; Charles Perry (PC) 441; Tuesdays/Thursdays 9:30-10:45AM
Instructor: Dr. John Kominoski; OE 207; 305.348.7117; jkominos@fiu.edu
<https://kominoskilab.wordpress.com/communicating-science/>

Class Schedule

Aug. 21: LECTURE: Writing overview / Essential Components of Scientific Manuscript/
- Accuracy, Brevity, and Clarity

23: LECTURE: Science Writing as Storytelling/Structure/OCAR

28: LECTURE: The Opening: Is anybody listening?

30: LAB: Title/Abstract/Introduction

Sept. 04: LECTURE: The Challenge: Develop important, testable questions

06: LAB: Questions that advance science

11: LECTURE: The Action: When, Where, Why, What, How

13: LAB: Methods and Results

18: No Class – incorporate writing group feedback

20: No Class – incorporate writing group feedback

25: LECTURE: The Resolution: Take us home

27: LAB: revised Results

Oct. 02: LECTURE: Writing from the inside out: Where and how to begin

04: LAB: Discussion and Conclusion

09 LECTURE: Acknowledgements, Literature Cited, Tables and Figures

11: LAB: Manuscript – writing group feedback

16: LECTURE: Authorship and Ethics

18: LAB: Manuscript – writing group feedback

23: LECTURE: Target Journals, Instruction for Authors, Cover Letters, Prospective
Reviewers

25: LAB: Manuscript – writing group feedback

30: LECTURE: It's a process: Dealing with reviewers /resubmission/ page proofs

Nov. 01: LAB: Manuscript – revised drafts and feedback discussed

06: LECTURE: Service: You as an editor/reviewer

08: LAB: Manuscript – First Draft Due

13: LECTURE: Sound science: Scientific societies and journals in the modern world

15: LAB: Reviews returned, discussed

20: LECTURE: It gets better: Responding to reviews

22: Thanksgiving (No Class)

27: LECTURE: Accepted or Rejected? What's next?

29: Last day of class / Revised Manuscripts Due/ Course Evaluations

Required Textbook

Schimel, Joshua. 2012. Writing Science – How to write papers that get cited and proposals that get funded. Oxford University Press, New York. ISBN: 978-0-19-976024-4

Grading

- Manuscript First submission: 30%
- Manuscript Final submission: 15%
- Manuscript Peer Review: 30%
- Class Participation/Attendance: 25%

Publication Status & Grade

- Accept as is: 100
- Accept with minor revisions: 95
- Accept with moderate revisions: 85
- Reconsider after major revision: 75
- Reject: ≤ 65

Expectations & Participation

Students will (1) participate in weekly lectures, labs, and discussions, (2) participate in giving and receiving weekly feedback with peer writing partner, (3) present manuscript sections and draft manuscripts during two labs based, (4) write a manuscript draft and revised manuscript of original, completed thesis or dissertation research, and (5) provide a journal-style peer review of another student's draft manuscript. Successful leadership will involve preparing and circulating manuscript sections and draft manuscripts by the class period prior to the class period where materials will be presented, and integrating feedback from class into revised manuscripts. Students will be graded on their attendance (all absences must be excused), participation, facilitation of discussion and the clarity, content and conciseness of all written work.