

COURSE DESCRIPTION (GENERAL DESCRIPTION)

Course title: Academic writing

Aim of the course

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The aim of the course is to help students develop their writing skills by practicing the conventions of writing texts in Social Psychology in English. The course is highly interactive and practice focused, allowing the students to learn and practice the necessary skills for writing term papers, theses, and journal articles. The aim of the course is to cover the most important aspects of scientific writing from ethical use of sources to stylistic and formatting requirements.

Learning outcome, competences

knowledge:

- Improve (critical) reading skills
- Identify the structural features of academic writing (especially writing journal articles) in Social Psychology
- Learn the writing process through peer evaluation
- Learn about the special tasks of writing: title, abstract, key words, illustrations, etc.

attitude::

- Critical reading of social psychological articles
- Openness to writing for scientific and lay audiences

skills:

- Ability to write clearly
- Ability to adhere to APA formatting and style requirements
- Learn to revise papers

Autonomy/ responsibility:

Content of the course

Topic of the course

1. Introduction
2. **Identifying sources:** identify relevant sources, types of sources, quick reading, the use of others' work in writing, ethical treatment of sources
3. **Structure of an article, analysis of a paragraph**
4. **Basic Social Science Argumentative Format:** statements, arguments, reasons, supporting evidence
5. **Stylistic requirements** of a journal article or thesis
6. **Writing within the word limit:** issues of style, editing and proofreading your text, paragraph unity
7. **Title, abstract**
8. **Introductions and Conclusions**
9. **Presenting research results,** using tables and figures as illustrations
10. **Writing a review** / revising and publishing your paper
11. **Presenting your paper** at conferences
12. **Coping with stress** and inspiration in writing
13. **Summary**

Learning activities, learning methods

- individual reading and writing assignments
- identifying a sample article
- writing an annotated bibliography
- paragraph development
- writing an abstract
- writing an introduction
- formatting texts
- writing a review
- giving blitz presentations

Evaluation of outcomes

Learning requirements, mode of evaluation and criteria of evaluation:

- Home assignments (70%)
- In class presentation or other in class exercises (30%)

Mode of evaluation:

- exam
- lecture
- seminar grade

Criteria of evaluation:

- Quality and timely submission of assignments
- Revision of texts in response to feedback

Reading list

Compulsory reading list

- Kail, R. V. (2014). Scientific writing for psychology: Lessons in clarity and style. SAGE Publications.

Recommended reading list

- Jensen, J. (2017). Write no matter what: Advice for academics. University of Chicago Press