

INSTITUTE OF BIOMEDICINE

SB00006 Scientific Manuscript Writing, practical course, 6 credits

Manusskrivning, praktisk kurs, 6 högskolepoäng

Third-cycle level / Forskarnivå

Confirmation

This syllabus was confirmed by the Council for PhD Education at Sahlgrenska Academy on 2018-12-17, and is valid from Autumn semester 2015.

Responsible Department Institute of Biomedicine, Sahlgrenska Academy

Entry requirements

Admitted to postgraduate education.

The course is aimed primarily at students who have started their research project and are in the process of writing a manuscript.

The course is an elective course within the third cycle at Sahlgrenska Academy.

Learning outcomes

After completing the course the student is expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

Participants will learn to understand the structure of a scientific article and the demands placed on such. Furthermore, participants will learn to distinguish between different types of articles and will gain insights into the peer review and publication processes.

Competence and skills

After completing the course, participants will have the ability to create and assemble an acceptable scientifically original manuscript, including informative and accurate tables and figures, and be able to use references to other scientific literature correctly. They will also have learned to evaluate critically colleagues' manuscripts and express their views in a way that is

standard in the scientific community.

Judgement and approach

Students will also be trained to participate in scientific discussions related to original scientific work.

Generic skills

Through the course, participants learn to present scientific results and conduct critical scientific discussions with their colleagues. After completing the course, students should be able to distinguish between good and bad scientific reporting.

Level and depth of knowledge

The participants' knowledge will be deepened in each area by first participating in a theory lecture, then discussing examples in groups, and finally, completing homework assignments at each step. Towards the end of the course this knowledge will be integrated and extended by the students completing their own manuscripts, which will be submitted to the teachers for review

Course content

The course is based on lectures, group work, examination of other student's manuscript texts ("peer review"), as well as own work with figures, tables, and manuscript writing. The lectures will cover the structure of the scientific article. During the group work, the participants will work on their own and others' figures, tables, and texts, and will carry out critical reviews of the structure and design of articles published in the scientific literature. During the course, participants will, under supervision, write a scientific manuscript based on their own original results. The various elements of the paper will be constructed through homework conducted between the teaching sessions. Course participants will also work with peer review, that is, critical review of and commentary on others' manuscripts. This will take place continuously during the course. Towards the end of the course, each participant will comment on another student's manuscript according to the provided reviewing template.

Types of instruction

Lectures, group work, examination of other student's manuscript texts, as well as own work with figures, tables, and manuscript writing.

Language of instruction

The course is given in English.

The language of instruction is English. The scientific article is written in English, as is the peer review assessment.

Grades

The grade Pass (G) or Fail (U) is given in this course.

Types of assessment

Submission of one's own work that meets the requirements for a scientific manuscript, as well as the timely submission of peer-review evaluations of colleagues' work will result in a pass grade. In addition, attendance at all group work sessions is compulsory as part of the peer-review process, as the other course participants are dependent upon their colleagues' efforts and inputs.

A doctoral student who has failed a test twice has the right to change examiners, if it is possible. A written application should be sent to the Institute.

Course evaluation

A course evaluation is submitted by each participant via an anonymous questionnaire at the end of the course. The results are compiled, anonymized if deemed appropriate, and submitted to the University.

Other information

The syllabus was confirmed by the Council for Postgraduate Studies on 2015-03-03 to be valid from autumn term 2015. The syllabus was entered into FUBAS in December 2018.