



INSTITUTE OF CLINICAL SCIENCES

SFUOBL3 Introduction to scientific writing and communication, 3 credits

Introduktion till vetenskapligt skrivande och kommunikation, 3 högskolepoäng

Third-cycle level / Forskarnivå

Confirmation

This syllabus was confirmed by the Council for PhD Education at Sahlgrenska Academy on 2022-09-12, and is valid from Spring semester 2023.

Responsible Department

Institute of Clinical Sciences, Sahlgrenska Academy

Entry requirements

Admission to the course requires that the student is enrolled to doctoral studies.

The course is part of the faculty's mandatory course package for doctoral students that includes 6 courses corresponding to 15 credits.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- Demonstrate a broad knowledge of key concepts regarding oral and written scientific communication.
- Localize and understand author guidelines of different publishers.
- Choose proper platforms for public dissemination of scientific results by means of oral presentations at conferences, popular science and social media.
- Distinguish between different styles and format of scientific communication so that the message targets the intended audience.

Competence and skills

- Show practical knowledge in writing different types of scientific text (sections of scientific publications and popular science), with the purpose of communication within the scientific

community and society.

- Operate reference management and graphical design tools.
- Present orally in a clear and summarised manner own research.
- Perform plagiarism test and interpret the results.

Judgement and approach

- Critically review, discuss and give feedback on scientific literature, focusing on writing style and data presentation.
- Reflect on the different available channels for scientific communication and tools to effectively communicate scientific results.

Course content

This course will provide participants with theoretical and practical aspects of scientific writing and communication. The course includes interactive sessions to introduce key concepts in oral and written scientific communication.

Topics covered are:

- the publication and peer review processes
- authorship criteria
- author guidelines from different publishers
- statement of significance / highlights / corresponding
- visual/graphical representation of quantitative and qualitative data
- reference management and graphical software
- plagiarism and good research practice, including data manipulation
- public dissemination of scientific results

Types of instruction

The course consists of interactive lectures, group exercises and individual work.

Language of instruction

The course is given in Swedish but can be given in English if necessary.

Grades

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

Types of assessment

Examination is done through individual assignments. An approved course requires participation in group exercises and an approved compilation of completed individual assignments, written tasks and oral presentations.

In case of absence or failure at the course's compulsory components, the student should participate in a replacement activity according to the course leader's direction

If a PhD student, who has been failed on the same examining course component twice, requests a change of examiner before the next examination session, a request of this kind should be sent in writing to the department responsible for the course, and granted, unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22, Higher Education Ordinance).

Course evaluation

The course evaluation will be provided both as a written questionnaire (joint for Sahlgrenska Academy) and orally as a discussion between the students and the course leader(s). The course responsible teacher compiles analysis of the course evaluation and makes suggestions for further development of the course. The result and any changes in the set-up of the course shall be communicated both to the students that carried out the evaluation and to the students who are about to start the course.