

Online Workshop (3 days, from 9:00 until 13:30): “Scientific Writing: Towards Organization and Motivation”

Concept of the workshop

For most, **scientific writing** is difficult. Ph.D. candidates and scientists often struggle with writing journal articles or their theses, while simultaneously completing time-consuming research projects. In addition, the standards for the publication of journal articles are increasing so there is **pressure** to publish high quality papers.

Unfortunately, Ph.D. candidates and scientists often do not receive any formal training to improve their scientific writing. Instead, they learn **“by doing”**, and by making mistakes.

This **lack of training** is a serious problem. Scientists have the responsibility to communicate their findings to their peers, and writing is the key to communicating scientific results. Scientific findings can only be used **effectively** if scientists are able to clearly communicate them.

With discipline and commitment, scientific writing is a skill that can be learned and mastered. In this workshop, Andrea Sanchini will work with participants to develop a set of **“how-to”** strategies for writing journal articles and theses, and for increasing writing **productivity**.

Included Topics

- Common challenges and misunderstandings in scientific writing
- How to organize the flow of information
- The sections of a scientific article
- The stages of the writing process
- Different types of writers
- Techniques and software available to increase writing productivity
- Clear scientific writing
- Motivational tools to increase writing productivity
- How to reduce procrastination and perfectionism
- Teamwork with co-authors and supervisors

Learning objectives

At the end of the workshop, participants will be able to:

- Understand the typical challenges and blocks associated with scientific writing
- Analyze the structure of scientific articles
- Evaluate a scientific article for clarity
- Write part of their next journal article or thesis
- Use strategies to increase their writing productivity and reduce self-sabotage behaviors

Teaching method

This workshop follows a balanced approach, including input presentations provided by the trainer, individual learning phases and group exercises. In addition, hand-outs, checklists and sample articles from the trainer's own experience in scientific writing will be provided.

Preparing for the workshop

During the workshop, participants can **draft** part of their current writing project, for example a journal article or a thesis (1 to 2 pages). Therefore, participants are asked to **decide** in advance which writing task they want to do during the workshop.

Ideally, participants should have started their research project already and be at the stage of writing, in order to take the most advantage from the workshop.

Workshop target group

The workshop is especially useful for **Ph.D. candidates** of Natural, Life and Social Sciences faculties at any stage of their Ph.D. More experienced scientists such as **early Postdocs** can also take advantage of the workshop since they can improve their writing skills and productivity.

About the Trainer

Personal website: www.sanchini-writing.com

Andrea Sanchini is a trainer in scientific writing and publishing. In July 2017, he completed his own Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences. Since May 2018, he is a certified writing trainer and coach, having completed a training at the *Technische Universität Darmstadt* (www.owl.tu-darmstadt.de/weiterbildung/index.de.jsp). He has more than ten years of experience as a researcher in the field of Life Sciences and as such, can fully understand the needs and problems facing scientists and especially Ph.D. candidates. As a scientist, he experienced the challenges of writing and publishing journal articles with limited time and limited funding.

While enrolled in an international Ph.D. graduate school in Berlin, he had the chance to receive formal training in scientific writing and publishing. Andrea has worked in Public Health institutions and universities in Italy, France, Germany, and India. He is fluent in English and German and his native language is Italian.

He is a member of:

- *Gesellschaft für Schreibdidaktik und Schreibforschung* (Society for Writing Research, www.schreibdidaktik.de/index.php)
- *Ernst-Reuter-Gesellschaft der Freunde, Förderer und Ehemaligen der Freien Universität Berlin* (Society of Friends, Supporters and Alumni of the Freie Universität Berlin, www.fu-berlin.de/sites/erg)
- FORTRAMA, Forschungs- und Transfermanagement e.V. (Research-and Transfermanagement e.V., <https://fortrama.net/>)
- European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (www.escmid.org)