- Workshop -

Writing papers and theses in the life sciences

Writing scientific manuscripts is rewarding but can also turn out to be a difficult task for the beginner. This interactive workshop gives assistance to Ph.D. and Master students who are facing the challenge of writing a scientific paper or a thesis.

The participants will be guided through the entire process of scientific writing, step by step. The workshop starts with the first drafts of the scientific story, deals with the generation of figures and texts, and intensively discusses the contents and logic that reviewers expect from a good manuscript. The importance of interactions with supervisors and co-authors will be pointed out and, finally, problems with writing or publishing will also be dealt with. We will develop a toolbox that makes scientific writing much more efficient and rewarding.

From the contents:

- How to prepare the writing phase?
- Data collection
- Concepts as decisive writing tools
- The "Word Flow" method
- Good figures / bad figures
- The "center" of your manuscript
- The "Big Three": Introduction, Results, Discussion
- Showcase of your manuscript: Title and Abstract
- Not to be forgotten: Methods, References etc.
- Interaction with your supervisor and co-workers
- Submission of publications
- Dealing with problems in writing and publishing
- Issues specific to Master and Ph.D. theses

➢ Format: 2-days workshop with discussions, presentations, individual and group work

➢ Language: English

➢ A comprehensive hand-out as well as a certificate of attendance will be provided.

➢ Trainer: Prof. Dr. Martin K. Wild, Münster, Germany

Participants are asked to bring along their laptops (fully charged and/or with power cable!) to work on small texts.

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Workshop Contents (2 days)

Colour code:

Work in groups – individual work – seminar with questions and answers – discussions

1. Writing up – How do I do that?
2. Before you start: literature screen, language proficiency
3. Data collection
4. Order of writing
5. Concept of the results
6. Write the results
7. Headline style / figure caption style
8. Write the introduction
9. Write the discussion
10. Write the abstract
11. The "Word Flow" method
12. Find a title
13. Write materials and methods
14. Add references
15. Acknowledgements
16. General aspects of writing
17. Papers: specific issues
18. Papers: submission of manuscripts
19. Doctoral theses: regulations / time to write
20. Doctoral theses: style / length
21. Doctoral theses: language
22. Doctoral theses: your data
23. Doctoral theses: the summary
24. Cumulative theses
25. Generating Figures and Tables
26. Writing reviews
27. Scientific wording
28. Interaction with your PI
29. Problems
30. Take home messages
31. Compendium of phrases in the handout