

The University of Texas at El Paso
College of Health Sciences
Interprofessional Health Sciences PhD Program

CHSC 6350 *Scientific and Grant Writing* Spring 2020

COURSE SYLLABUS

Credit Hours: 3

Schedule: Mondays 1:00pm-3:50pm, HSN 212

Instructors: Dr. Alvaro N Gurovich, PT, PhD, FACSM (agurovich@utep.edu)
Dr. Jeff Eggleston, PhD (jdeggleston@utep.edu)
Office hours: by appointment

Required Textbooks:

- **Strategic scientific and medical writing: the road to success** / Pieter H. Joubert, Silvia M. Rogers. Heidelberg: Springer, 2015. ISBN: 9783662483169 and 3662483165. UTEP Library [link](#). PDF download [link](#).
- **Writing and publishing a scientific research paper** / Subhash Chandra Parija, Vikram Kate, editors. Singapore: Springer, 2017. ISBN: 9789811047206. UTEP Library [link](#).
- **The Grant Application Writer's Workbook. National Institutes of Health Version** / John D. Robertson, Ph.D., Stephen W. Russell, DVM, Ph.D., David C. Morrison, Ph.D. Available as PDF in Blackboard.

Other Reading:

- **Seals, D. and H. Tanaka.** Manuscript peer review: a helpful checklist for students and novice referees. *Advances in Physiology Education*. 23:52-58, 2000. PDF download [link](#). Available as PDF in Blackboard.
- **Benos, D. et al.** How to review a paper. *Advances in Physiology Education*. 27:47- 52, 2003. PDF download [link](#). Available as PDF In Blackboard.
- **David C. Van Aken and William F. Hosford.** Reporting Results: A Practical Guide for Engineers and Scientists. Book Summary. Available as PDF in Blackboard.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Seminar in Scientific and Grant Writing (3-0). This course will address two skills associated with success in academia: productive scientific writing and successfully obtaining research funding through grant writing. Students will learn the common components of scientific manuscripts and grant applications. The course also will address how to overcome common barriers to writing productivity.

Over the course of the semester you will work on one or more manuscripts, on your own time, writing every day and recording your progress in Blackboard. Classes will be used to discuss your progress in groups, problem-solve with the class, discuss and consider issues regarding effective writing, receive review of your writing from peers, and for learning to constructively critique other's writing.

COURSE GOALS

At the end of the course you will:

1. IMPROVE your scientific and technical writing skills (precise, concise, clear, and fluid)
2. DEVELOP a clear understanding of the contents of each section of a scientific manuscript.
3. DEVELOP a clear understanding of the contents of each section of a scientific grant submission.
4. DEVELOP your skills as a reviewer of other's writing.
5. COMPLETE one manuscript or grant for submission to a professional journal or reviewing committee.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Lecture-based sessions with hands-on activities and group discussions. It is expected that students will read and write every week to successfully complete assignments.

YOUR ROLE IN THE COURSE

To be ready for this type of experience, it will be important for you to read and prepare outside of class. Your preliminary knowledge and understanding of the readings will be essential for success with in-class and out-of-class activities and assignments, many of which will take place in collaboration with the whole class.

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Manuscript Reviewer	15%
Grant Reviewer	15%
Editorial Board/Study Section Review	15%
Submission Manuscript/Grant	40%
Class Attendance and Participation	15%

1. **Manuscript Reviewer:** You will receive a blind-manuscript and you will have 2 weeks to upload your review in Blackboard as you are an assigned manuscript reviewer. Format will be discussed in class.
2. **Grant Reviewer:** You will receive a grant application and you will have 2 weeks to upload your review in Blackboard as grant reviewer. Format will be discussed in class.
3. **Editorial Board/Study Section Review:** Once all students have submitted their manuscripts/grants, you will be part of a Study Section or Editorial Board to decide about the grant fundability and manuscript publishing chances. Details and format will be discussed in class.
4. **Submission Manuscript/Grant:** By April 13th, you will upload your manuscript or grant in Blackboard. These will be reviewed by both instructors and review panel formed by classmates. 90% of this grade will be assigned by these reviews and final flash presentation. The last 10% will be assigned when proof of submission is received. Students will have until May 14th at noon to upload proof of manuscript/grant submission given by journal/agency. Details will be discussed in class.
5. **Class Attendance and Participation:** If you chose not to attend a session, there will be a 5% deduction per hour not attended. For example, you miss one full day, the top grade on this category would be an 85%. In addition, if you chose not to regularly participate in the class discussions, there will be a 10% deduction on this grade.

GRADING SCALE

Letter Grade Scale	Numerical Grade Scale
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
F	Below 70

Special Accommodations (ADA):

“If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 915-747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass.”