

SW1—Special Topics in Sustainability

<http://shokulan.org/Courses/SciWri/SW1.html>

Mondays 10:20-12:10

LAN 012

Credit: 2 hours

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Syllabus

Course Summary:

In this course, students read original papers on a topic in sustainability. Students also write abstracts and short essays based on assigned reading. Assigned reading and writing assignments are discussed in class in small and large groups. Students learn how to read scientific papers, write abstracts, and evaluate work by their peers - thus practicing peer review.

Tentative schedule:

Date	Lecture Topic	Assignment Due	Discussion Topic
9/10	Scientific Writing, Structure & Types of Scientific Papers, Abstracts	In-class writing exercise	
9/17	<u>Paraphrasing</u> , Citations, <u>Outlines</u> Journal Instructions: <u>Journal of Wildlife Management</u>	Paraphrase exercise Paraphrase of course policy	<u>Paraphrasing</u>
9/24	NO CLASS – Mid-Autumn Festival		
10/1	<u>Common Boo Boos</u>	Outline of Paper 1 Essay for Paper 1	Paper 1
10/8	Scientific Code of Ethics	Essay for Paper 2 Bibliographies (2) for review paper	Paper 1's Essay Paper 2: Code of Ethics
10/15	<u>Ethics</u> in writing and research Ethics: Questionnaire	Outline for Paper 3	Paper 2 Essay Questionnaire
10/22	References, Editing	Essay for Paper 3	Discuss Paper 3
10/29	Research Tools	Outline for Paper 4	Discuss essay for Paper 3
11/5	Abbreviations, Jargon & Style	Essay for Paper 4	Discuss Paper 4
11/12	tba	Outline for Paper 5	Discuss essay for Paper 4
11/19	tba	Essay for Paper 5	Discuss Paper 5
11/26	tba	Outline for Paper 6	Discuss essay for Paper 5
12/3	tba	Essay for Paper 6	Discuss Paper 6
12/10	tba	Outline for Paper 7	Discuss essay for Paper 6
12/17	tba	Essay for Paper 7	Discuss Paper 7
12/24	tba	Outline for Paper 8	Discuss essay for Paper 7
12/31	tba	Essay for Paper 8	Discuss Paper 8
1/7	tba		Discuss essay for Paper 8

Writing: You will write essays and outlines for each paper read in class.

Large Group Discussion: We discuss reading assignments and lecture material in large groups.

Small Group Tutorials: The week before small group discussion, provide paper copies of your writing assignments to each member of your group. Electronic copies (disk or email) are not acceptable. Before discussion, review and revise essays and abstracts written by members in your group.

Recommended Texts <<http://shokulan.org/Courses/SciWri/Lit.html>>:

- Day, Robert A. 1995. Scientific English: A Guide for Scientists and Other Professionals. 2nd edition. Oryx Press.
- Block, W.M., F.R. Thompson, D. Hanseder, A. Cox, & A. Knipps. 2011. Journal of Wildlife Management Guidelines. Journal of Wildlife Management. <<http://joomla.wildlife.org/documents/JWMguidelines2011.pdf>>. Accessed 6 September 2012.
- Shrunk Jr., W., E.B. White & R. Angell. 2000. The Elements of Style. 4th Edition. Pearson Allyn & Bacon. (available online)

Other resources include:

- Information posted on the class website: <http://shokulan.org/Courses/SciWri/SW1.html>
- Readings placed on reserve in the department office
- Journals in the university library
- Internet resources

Grading: Grades are based on writing (50%) and participation in discussion (50%).

Course Policy:

- If you have problems meeting deadlines and assignments, you must inform me immediately. Your problems will affect everyone in the class.
- Until midterm, late homework is penalized for each week late. After midterm, the penalty increases.
- You must do your own work. You must write everything using your own words and your own English.
- Plagiarism is penalized by failure of the assignment! This includes copying from classmates, advisors, and co-authors. This also includes copying words, ideas, data, graphs, tables, figures, maps, and photographs.