

Time and Place

1:30-2:20PM Monday-Wednesday-Friday

3026 Seamans Center for the Engineering Arts & Sciences

Course Description

These courses are designed to introduce the student to the skills used in reviewing the literature, reading publications critically, and communicating scientific ideas in both written and oral form. For 052:115, this form will be a publication-caliber review article on a select topic. For 052:215, this form will be a federal-agency-style research proposal. Both written forms will be accompanied by an appropriate oral presentation. Other communication forms including group writing and posters will be discussed, along with additional practical considerations such as the peer review process and plagiarism.

Instructor

Eric Nuxoll

eric-nuxoll@uiowa.edu

4140 SC

Office Hours:

M, 11:30-12:30, T 1-2, F 4:30-5:30

or by appointment

Course Format

Lectures with in-class assignments and discussion. Due to the nature of the course, attendance is mandatory. Only excused absences (verifiable illness or conference participation) will be accepted.

Required Text

You must have a reference text which you will use to guide you in writing and preparing presentations. You can choose the text which suits you best. Recommendations include:

Technical Communications –Process and Product, 7th ed., S.J. Gerson & S.M. Gerson, Prentice Hall, 2012.

Technical Writing and Professional Communication, 2nd ed., L.A. Olsen and T.N. Huckin, McGraw-Hill, Inc., 1991.

Writing for the Technical Professions, 2nd ed., K.R. Woolever, Longman, 2002.

ACS Style Guide, 3rd ed., A.M. Coghill and L.R. Garson, Oxford Press, 2006.

Grading

The following criteria will be used to evaluate each student's performance in the course:

1. Homework and In-class Participation (20% of grade)
 - Participation in classroom discussions and evaluations
 - Performance on periodic in-class and take-home assignments
2. Projects (30% of grade)
 - Written literature review exercise
 - Oral presentation based on literature review exercise
 - Group writing exercise

3. *Final Written Review Paper (052:115) / Research Proposal (052:215)* (50% of grade)

- Written original manuscript
- Oral presentation based on manuscript

Tentative Course Timeline:

Week 1:	Introductions, Scope of Course, Generation of research ideas
Week 2:	Brainstorming sessions, Presentation skills
Week 3:	Literature search and reference management (Class meets in SC 1245)
Week 4:	Presentations and discussions
Week 5:	Idea generation
Week 6:	Writing skills
Week 7:	Manuscripts and Peer Review
Week 8:	Plagiarism
Week 9:	Literature review exercise presentations and discussion
Week 10:	Literature review exercise presentations and discussion
Week 11:	Proposals, Biosketch
Week 12:	Group Writing, Feedback, Posters
Week 13:	Notebooks, Statistics, Abstracts
Week 14:	Writing workshops, Ethics
Week 15:	Final Presentations
Finals Week:	Final Presentations

Scheduling conflicts

Students anticipating a scheduling conflict should contact the instructor as soon as possible. Exams will be offered at alternative times as consistent with the University's exam policies. These policies can be viewed at www.registrar.uiowa.edu/exams/exampolicy.aspx

Accommodations for Disabilities

If you feel that you may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability please contact Prof. Nuxoll privately to discuss your specific needs. You may also contact the Office of Student Disability Services (319/335-1462) to discuss the accommodations that are available for students with documented disabilities.

This course is housed in the College of Engineering, therefore class policies on matters such as requirements, grading, and sanctions for academic dishonesty are governed by the College of Engineering. Students wishing to add or drop this course after the official deadline must receive the approval of the Dean of the College of Engineering. Details of the University policy of cross enrollments may be found at: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~provost/deos/crossenroll.doc>