



## NSCI 721 Scientific Writing in Neuroscience

### Course Description:

An introduction to scientific writing that includes preparation of abstracts for scientific meetings, presentations at meetings, preparation of a scientific manuscript for publication and, finally, preparing a grant proposal for extramural funding in the NIH style.

Credit Hours: 3--3

Course Prerequisites: Must have completed NSCI 701 or equivalent Medical School courses, and at least one semester of NSCI 791.

Course Dates: Fall (721A), Spring (721B) Semesters

Course Times: 3 hrs per week, TBA.

Course Location: TBA

### Instructor:

Kevin Freeman, Ph.D., Department of Psychiatry & Human Behavior, x55622, [kfreeman@umc.edu](mailto:kfreeman@umc.edu) (721A) and James Rowlett, Ph.D., Department of Psychiatry & Human Behavior, x44488, [jrowlett@umc.edu](mailto:jrowlett@umc.edu) (721B).

### Required Text and Other Learning Resources:

No text required. Reading materials will be provided by the instructors

### Course Overview:

The course will consist of weekly meetings with the instructor to inform, discuss and evaluate different elements and aspects of scientific writing. In addition to readings related to the theory and elements of scientific writing, students will analyze well-written and flawed writing examples. Finally, students will prepare their own drafts for critique, analysis and revision.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the major elements of each form of scientific writing.
2. Analyze scientific writing to identify the presence or absence of necessary elements.
3. Compose their own abstract, manuscript, grant proposal to include necessary elements and avoid major pitfalls.

4. Revise scientific writing (their own or examples) to improve the writing either for critical elements, style or flow.

#### Grading Policy and Rubric.

Students will receive writing and editing assignments which will be graded on a Pass/Fail basis. If a student fails an assignment, they will be required to complete and pass additional assignments addressing the failed component.

#### Course Policies:

Attendance at weekly meetings is mandatory. Correspondence and assignments will be submitted by either email or Canvas.

#### University Policies:

Students with disabilities (ADA) statement Refer to UMC policy  
Academic honesty statement Refer to UMC policy