

Skriva vetenskapliga artiklar på engelska, 4 poäng, GEM020F

Technical Writing for Publication

Examinator:

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Språk:

Kursen ges på engelska.

Behörighet:

Antagen till forskarutbildning vid LTH. Doktoranden skall vid tillfället för ansökan hålla på med att skriva eller vara på väg att börja skriva en forskningsartikel för publicering i en internationell teknisk vetenskaplig tidskrift.

Urval vid eventuell platsbegränsning:

I urvalet prioriteras 1) de som tidigare sökt och vid det tillfället också varit behöriga till kursen, 2) hur långt doktoranden har kommit i sin forskarutbildning, där de som kommit längst ges företräde.

Antagningsförfarande:

Kursen annonseras på LTH:s hemsida samt i utskick till institutionerna. Ansökan skall göras på särskild blankett som finns på LTH:s hemsida, där handledare har intygat att kursen ingår i doktorandens forskarutbildning. Styrelsen för LTH fattar beslut om antagning. LTH:s kansli informerar snarast möjligt de som sökt.

Syfte:

The main intention of the course is to teach graduate students on how to write a technical research article (RA) for publication in a technical journal

The course is also intended to facilitate the work of thesis advisors and research colleagues by speeding up the process by which junior researchers learn the art, skill and conventions needed for writing a convincing description of new research findings.

Mål:

The goal of the course is to make the writing process easier and the final text more effective by helping students develop:

A clearer sense of the communicative characteristics of

- RAs in general and
- RAs in their own area in particular

Tools for analyzing the language of

- published RAs
- their own RAs

Innehåll:

The course is based on a combination of pedagogical approaches, including, *Learning English for specific purposes* (in this case the purpose is writing technical RAs), *Learning by doing* (i.e., by writing an actual RA) and *Discourse analysis*. The students are asked to use the following writing process:

- ANALYZE
 - the language of a published RA in your field
 - the communicative goals of your own RA
- SELECT and ORGANIZE your RA
 - based on your analysis, group and sequence information about your research for the specific purposes of each section, subsection, Sequence of paragraphs
- WRITE
 - a first draft based on the organization devised
- ANALYZE AND REVISE
 - Write a 2nd draft using feedback on the first

The course is intended to provide maximum time to the writing process itself, rather than to lectures. Thus the material is covered in seven 3-hour lectures. Thereafter the students spend their time in applying the lecture ideas in the writing and revising of the RA sections, the teacher is giving in-depth feedback about the discourse in those two drafts.

The lectures are devoted to three main aspects of discourse and the writing process:

I General introduction to the writing process and to the discourse in RAs

Lecture 1, Cooperative Communication and the Research Article: Audience and Purpose
Paraphrasing RAs

II Analyzing the Sections of the RA

Lecture 2 The Introduction Section

Lecture 3 Describing the Materials and Methods

Lecture 4 Presenting and discussing Results

Lecture 6 The Abstract

III Revising for clarity, coherence and correctness Lectures 3-7

Avoiding common errors in grammar and punctuation

Ordering the main sentence constituents:

To achieve desired emphasis

To focus on the intended topic

To clarify the message

To improve readability

Avoiding wordiness

Using Formal Style

Using Collocations and Improving Idiomaticity

Examination:

In order to pass the course the student must attend 80 % of all scheduled lectures and fulfill the following requirements:

- Write a brief description of the communicative goals of an RA they are presently writing for publication and which they will be writing during the course.
- Write first drafts of each of the sections of this RA.
- Write a second draft of the same sections, taking into consideration comments received on aspects of the organization of information in the 1st draft.
- Analyze the sections of a published RA that is similar to that the students will be writing in our class.

In certain circumstances, the examiner can allow the student to fulfill the requirements differently.

Kurslitteratur:

Manual till kursen utarbetad av Margaret Newman-Nowicka.