

GRADUATE PUBLICATION WORKSHOP

The course meets Wednesdays from 1:00-2:50 in PLC 448.

Contact information for Prof. Wood:

Office: PLC 445

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Office hours: Mondays 1-3, Thursday 12-2, or by appointment.

Description and Learning Outcomes

This workshop will familiarize you with some best practices for organizing, sustaining, revising, refining, and enjoying your writing and your approach to writing. 608 will also familiarize you with the procedures and tactics associated with article submission and publication in a peer-reviewed journal. The syllabus accommodates – and strongly encourages – taking the workshop in concert with a 605 or 503, so that revision exercises happen as we discuss them. If you are not completing your journal article requirement 605 this term, I will work out a plan with you to adapt the below assignments.

The conceptual skills involved in revising and rethinking an essay, and the organizational skills involved in using time effectively for writing, are valuable in many future contexts, not limited to academic careers. Over ten weeks we'll cover a series of topics:

- The ins-and-outs of journal publication
- The proverbial writing desk
- How to transform a conference or seminar paper into an article submission
- Writing strong conclusions, introductions, footnotes, and titles
- Revision, layering, and targeting your article for a specific scholarly community
- Composing submission cover letters
- Analyzing a reader's report and responding to editor's comments

By the end of the workshop you will have a successfully revised draft of an article that you may send out to a journal or will know how to revise and tailor your seminar paper draft.

Required Textbook

Wendy Belcher's *Writing Your Journal Article in 12 Weeks*

Available at University of Oregon Duckstore

Additional Requirements

Punctual, regular attendance and participation in discussion are required. All written work should be typed, single sided, double spaced. Incompletes will be given only for a documented emergency.

Willingness to experiment with new writing methods, to treat yourself and others with kindness, supporting everyone's endeavors to develop new ideas and take risks, and to be open to error and setback without condemnation or recrimination of self or others, is also required.

Grades

The course is pass/no pass. Participation in class discussion and completion of all exercises are required for a pass. If you are not currently working on converting a draft manuscript into a publishable article, I will work with you on modifying the weekly assignments.

Accommodations

Appropriate accommodations will be provided for students with documented disabilities. You will also meet with the Accessible Education Center, which will help provide needed accommodations.

Course schedule

W 1/8 Course introduction, technical and emotional elements of writing, SMART goals, term plans

Reading: Belcher, Week 1, pp. 1-41

- 1-2 page report on your writing environment; forms of procrastination; anxieties and pleasures associated with writing, **due Friday, Jan.10th, midnight, on Canvas**
- Submit hard copy of seminar paper draft with any professor feedback, **due in class.**

W 1/15 Model article review; discussion of resistance

- Choose a model article, preferably something in your main area of interest
- Dissect model's title, argument, transitions, opening lines, topic sentences, use of citations, literature reviews, how the author positions the main argument in relationship to scholarly debates, footnotes or endnotes, and concluding claims
- Present 2-3 key findings to class; this can include ideas you have for your essay

W 1/22 Journal review and journal choice

Reading: Belcher, Week 4, pp. 99-137

- Pick three journals in your field; rank them in order of fit and priority for your article
- Write a paragraph for each explaining 1) rationale for the decision (journals' objectives and current publication trends), 2) audience, 3) why the article would fit this journal

- Review first 3 paragraphs to every article in top 2 journals for past 2 years; note similarities and trends
- Search *MLA Directory of Periodicals* on-line and identify submission protocol, acceptance rate, and circulation
- Present to class

NB Post your journal selections (not the paragraphs mentioned above) on Canvas by end of 1/22

W 1/29 Abstract, keywords, and argument revision
Reading: Belcher, Weeks 2-3, pp. 43-97

- Draft 300-word article abstract aimed at your journal's audience
- List 5 article keywords (define each keyword; describe how they function in your argument)
- condense article argument into 1-3 sentences
- Present to class
- Turn in list of prioritized revisions (including what to bulk up from a seminar paper, if necessary)

W 2/5 Annotated bibliography
Reading: Belcher, Week 5, pp. 139-69

- Peruse *MLA International Bibliography* online
- read ****everything**** in *Bibliography* published on your topic since 1950 using your keywords. OK: be judicious and selective about what you read from 1950-1987.
- annotate each article with 2-4-observations.
- class discussion on what works to incorporate in article and how to do it.

W 2/12 Strengthening structure; discussion of assessing and adjusting
Reading: Belcher, Week 6, pp. 171-87

- Continue to revise writing

W 2/19 Revision of evidence
Reading: Belcher, Week 7, pp. 189-200

- Continue to revise writing

W 2/26 Title, intro, and conclusion revision
Reading: Belcher, Week 8, pp. 201-219

- **Revisions to create nearly final draft; upload to Canvas by 2/29 midnight**

W 3/4 Peer review + editing and proofreading
Reading: Belcher, Weeks 9, 10, and 11, pp. 221-271

- Present assigned writer with a 1-1.5 pp. written report by W, 3/11
- **Final revision: send to MW by 3/9 for submission to faculty for blind review**

W 3/11 Submission, rejections, acceptances, revised resubmits
 Reading: Belcher, Week 12 and Week X, pp 271-319

- 1 page response to peer reviewer's comments due on Canvas by 3/13
- Incorporate peer reviewer's comments ****as needed****
- Create submission plan; post your deadline plan on Canvas

Calendar for interconnected assignments

Wed., Jan. 22: post the names of your journals on Canvas by midnight

Saturday, Feb. 29: post your almost-final draft for peer review on Canvas by midnight

Monday, March 9th: email MW the final revision of your paper for blind faculty review (4 pm)

Wednesday, March 11th: email your peer 1-1.5 pp. feedback to MW and author (6 pm)

Friday, March 13th: bring MW and peer a 1-p. response to the peer review of your work