



Softskill-Seminar **Academic Writing**

Trainer

Derek Handley

Course Agenda for a 2-day Workshop

Preparatory work for participants

- Read a short research paper sent by the trainer and answer four basic questions about it
- Choose one scientific poster or slide deck to bring to day 2 of the workshop

Day 1

Morning – Fundamentals of Rhetoric

- Introduction to academic rhetoric
- Recognizing your audience – writing for general and specialist audiences
- Recognizing your medium – writing for journals, books and conferences
- Key elements of language – passive and active voice; parallel structure; formality

Afternoon – Scientific Papers

- The elements and language of a scientific paper
- Abstracts, introductions, summaries and conclusions – key differences
- Analysis of a single research paper

Homework: Writing exercise – prepare an abstract based on a paper

Day 2

Morning – Writing and Audiences

- Reviewer feedback – incorporating and responding to feedback from reviewers
- Writing scientific posters and slide decks
- Self-analysis and discussion – assessing own posters and slide decks

Afternoon – Summing Up

- Discussion of homework
- Key elements of language II – how to develop your language and writing skills
- Discussion of article abstracts, review abstracts and conference abstracts
- Final thoughts