



FDS3102 Writing Scientific Articles 5.0 credits

Att skriva vetenskapliga artiklar

This is a translation of the Swedish, legally binding, course syllabus.

Establishment

Course syllabus for FDS3102 valid from Autumn 2012

Grading scale

G

Education cycle

Third cycle

Specific prerequisites

PhD students, postdocs, researchers

Language of instruction

The language of instruction is specified in the course offering information in the course catalogue.

Intended learning outcomes

To develop the participant's awareness of the underlying structure and patterns of scientific and engineering research articles, and to improve proficiency in writing up scientific research in English. After the course, the student should be able to:

- identify what constitutes good technical writing
- recognise and express the rhetorical functions typically found in academic scientific writing
- select English vocabulary and grammar which is appropriate to scientific papers in the student's own discipline
- express themselves clearly, correctly and accurately in English
- adapt their writing according to reader and purpose
- critically review their own scientific texts and those of peers; give and take constructive criticism on content, vocabulary, text structure and organisation; apply this criticism in reworking his/her own texts.

Course contents

Participants write two short texts: a project application and a conference abstract. Thereafter they write the different sections of their own scientific article: Methods, Results, Introduction, Discussion/Conclusion, Title and Abstract. The texts are peer-reviewed by classmates in and outside of class. Class preparation also includes analysis of texts in the course material and exercises focusing on problematic areas for academic writing for scientists and engineers who use English as a second language. The course finishes with a tutorial where the teacher provides feedback on a completed research article.

Course literature

Swales, John M. & Feak, Christine B. (2004). **Academic writing for graduate students: essential tasks and skills**. 2. ed. Ann Arbor: Univ. of Michigan Press

Eget kursmaterial

Examination

Based on recommendation from KTH's coordinator for disabilities, the examiner will decide how to adapt an examination for students with documented disability.

The examiner may apply another examination format when re-examining individual students.

If the course is discontinued, students may request to be examined during the following two academic years.

Other requirements for final grade

Required attendance of 75% The course requirements are fulfilled when the student has produced an article of good rhetorical and linguistic quality, and met with the teacher to discuss the article.

Ethical approach

- All members of a group are responsible for the group's work.
- In any assessment, every student shall honestly disclose any help received and sources used.
- In an oral assessment, every student shall be able to present and answer questions about the entire assignment and solution.