

Syllabus 2016-2017

Communicating: your academic life depends on it

KL2 Seminar Program 2016-2017
Joel E. Dimsdale, M.D.

Academics communicate for their livelihood. Their writing determines their success with grant applications and publications. New faculty members are frequently intimidated by writing, by dealing with reviewers' criticisms, and by coming to terms with their own perfectionism. This series demystifies scientific communication. The sessions will be interactive and participants are required to bring in their own writing and reviewers' comments to discuss and learn from each other. The seminar also focuses on presentation skills to scientific as well as community audiences, and attendees will make multiple presentations regarding their research. Clear communication is also vital in matters such as academic file preparation, and all phases of human relations (hiring, promoting, laying off, etc.).

Additional sessions introduce some of the services and resources of the CTRI (small grants, database, and translational research technologies).

Many sessions will be co-taught by guest faculty as specified below.

All sessions will be held on Tuesdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., with refreshments. Sessions will take place on the East Campus of UCSD, specific location TBD.

Session 1 June 7	General orientation, introducing ourselves in person and via web Profiles (Deborah Spector); accessing CTRI recharge services (Mark Wallace) <i>*Homework assignment due the Friday BEFORE the seminar (email to Jill): review and post your UCSD Profile</i>
Session 2 July 5	Publishing from the editor's perspective (Paul Insel); hidden structure of papers (Joel Dimsdale)
<i>No August Session</i>	
Session 3 September 6	Effective writing part 1 (Joel Dimsdale); understanding the professorial series and academic reviews (Bob Ross) <i>*Homework assignment due the Friday BEFORE the seminar (email to Jill): Submit abstract and introduction of a manuscript you are working on</i>

Session 4 October 4	Effective writing part II (Joel Dimsdale) <i>*Homework assignment due the Friday BEFORE the seminar (email to Jill): update your manuscript, using track changes and add the methods and results.</i>
Session 5 November 1	Responding to reviewer's criticisms (Michael Ziegler) <i>*Homework assignment due the Friday BEFORE the seminar (email to Jill): submit copy of a major revision request for one of your manuscripts</i>
Session 6 December 6	Structuring a scientific talk (Colin Depp) <i>*Homework assignment due the Friday BEFORE the seminar (email to Jill): Prepare a 10' talk about your work using PowerPoint</i>
Session 7 January 3	How to review for journals or funding agencies (to be determined) <i>*Homework assignment due the Friday BEFORE the seminar (email to Jill): Review an assigned grant application and prepare comments.</i>
Session 8 February 7	Communicating with the public (Osher Institute members) <i>*Homework assignment due the Friday BEFORE the seminar (email to Jill): Deliver a 10' talk to a lay audience, including no more than 5 slides</i>
Session 9 March 7	Team Science, Part I (Vish Krishnan, VirBELA); HR at UCSD (to be determined)
Session 10 April 4	Team Science, Part II (Vish Krishnan, VirBELA); Mentoring issues
Session 11 May 2	Communicating with the Media (to be determined) <i>*Homework assignment due the Friday BEFORE the seminar (email to Jill): Prepare a press release regarding your work</i>