
How to Write and Publish a Scientific Paper

Short Course by Dr. Markus Flury

- **Course Description:**

To publish a scientific paper, one needs both good science and good writing. This course will introduce the concepts of scientific writing and the procedures to publish a scientific paper. Participants can also bring their own writing, and we will discuss good and bad writing. The course does not focus on English per se, but rather emphasizes the scientific writing aspect. The course will also touch upon authorship and ethical issues involved in the publication process. Topics of the course include:

1. Introduction
2. The Scientific Publication
3. Approach to Writing a Paper
4. Title, List of Authors, Abstract
5. Introduction, Materials & Methods, References
6. Results, Discussion, Conclusions, Acknowledgments
7. Tables, Figures, Photographs
8. Scientific Style and English
9. Scientific Typesetting
10. Scientific Misconduct and Ethics

- **Course Audience:**

The course is targeted for graduate students, post-graduate scientists, and scientists involved in writing scientific manuscripts. To provide enough opportunity for discussion, the number of course participants is limited to a maximum of 25.

- **Course Format:**

The course is offered as a 1-credit course (US system), as a 15-hour lecture series. In the short course format, the course will consist of 4 days of 4 hour lectures. However, alternative formats can be discussed to suit specific needs.

- **Textbook:**

Robert A. Day and Barbara Gastel, 2006. *How to Write and Publish a Scientific Paper*, 6th edition, Greenwood Press, Westport, CT. The textbook is recommended, but not necessary. Many examples from the book will be used in the course.

- **Instructor:**

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Dr. Flury is a Professor at Washington State University. He has extensive experience in the scientific publication process. He has published 60 peer-reviewed articles and 8 book chapters in the field of soil physics and vadose zone hydrology. He has served as Associate Editor and Book Editor for the *Vadose Zone Journal*, and currently serves as Associate Editor for the *Journal of Environmental Quality*.