Course Description
Academic Writing in Psychology – 7,5 HP

Course content and aims

- This course gives doctoral students the opportunity to develop their academic writing skills within psychology or closely related fields. Topics covered include finding the time to write, how to structure an academic paper, how to improve their clarity and flow of writing, the publication and review process, and grant writing. The course will involve both lectures and seminars with weekly writing and reviewing assignments.
- The course is primarily intended for doctoral students in psychology who have research that is ready to be written for publication.

Assessment

- The course is graded pass/fail. A passing grade requires completion of all assignments as well as active participation in lectures and seminars. See below for details.
    - Writing samples: At the end of weeks 1-4, students will submit a sample of written work for peer review. With the sample, they should make clear what aspect of their writing they would like feedback on.
    - Peer review: Before class in weeks 2-5, students will review a peer's written work in both writing (,5-1 page; submitted on Athena before class) and through discussion (during class time).
    - Review reflections: After discussing the peer review and revising the written work, the student will write a brief reflection (,5 page) on the peer comments and how they were applied.
    - Active participation is required to pass the course. If a student cannot attend a seminar, they must book an alternate meeting time for a peer discussion. If they cannot attend a lecture, they must contact the course leader regarding a completion assignment.
- A note on AI: The use of AI for writing will be discussed in this course. Generative AI *can* be used to assist in your writing assignments, given that its use is disclosed and justified. If the justification is not sufficient, you may be asked to re-write an assignment. The use of AI without disclosure is considered academic dishonesty and will be reported.

Lectures

1. The practice of academic writing and writing time management
2. Structuring a paper, writing literature reviews
3. Paragraphs, sentences, and words
4. Publication and review
5. Introduction to grant writing

Course leader

- Christine Fawcett, Ph.D., Docent
    - Senior Lecturer in Psychology
    - Christine.Fawcett@psychology.su.se

Course Literature

- Book
    - Sarnecka, B. W. (2021). The Writing Workshop: Write More, Write Better, Be Happier in Academia.

    - Available as a free pdf from: https://osf.io/tzaeh/
    - Chapters 2-6, 8-10 required, Chapter 1 and 7 optional
- Articles and chapters (available on Athena)
    - Davis, W. E., Giner-Sorolla, R., Lindsay, D. S., Lougheed, J. P., Makel, M. C., Meier, M. E., ... & Zelenski, J. M. (2018). Peer-review guidelines promoting replicability and transparency in psychological science. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*, *1*(4), 556-573.
    - Lamott, A (1994). Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life. New York: Anchor. (selected sections)
    - Nature (2023). Tools such as ChatGPT threaten transparent science; here are our ground rules for their use. *Nature*, *613*(612), 10-1038.
    - Provenzale, J. M., & Stanley, R. J. (2005). A systematic guide to reviewing a manuscript. *American Journal of Roentgenology*, *185*(4), 848-854.

Course schedule - Spring 2025

Date, room	***Assignments***	***Lectures and seminars***	***Readings***
24/3 Monday Mötesrum 41, hus 2, vån 4 (framför Proviant)		Lecture 1: **The practice of academic writing and writing time management** (13-15:00)	Lamott (1994); Nature (2023); Sarnecka ch 2–3
28/3 Friday	Writing sample due 10.00		
31/3 Monday Mötesrum 41, hus 2, vån 4	Peer review due 12.00	Lecture 2: **Structuring a paper, writing literature reviews** (13-15.00) Seminar (15-16.00)	Sarnecka ch 4-5
4/4 Friday	Writing sample and reflection due 10.00		
7/4 Monday Mötesrum 41, hus 2, vån 4	Peer review due 12.00	Lecture 3: **Paragraphs, sentences, and words** (13-15.00) Seminar (15-16.00)	Sarnecka ch 8-10
17/4 *Thursday*	Writing sample and reflection due 10.00		
22/4 *Tuesday* Mötesrum Smultron, hus 4, vån 3	Peer review due 12.00	Lecture 4: **Publication and review** (13-15.00) Seminar (15-16.00)	Davis et al. (2018); Provenzale & Stanley (2005) Sarnecka p.171-174
25/4 Friday	Writing sample and reflection due 10.00		
28/4 Monday Mötesrum Smultron, hus 4, vån 3	Peer review due 12.00	Lecture 5: **Introduction to grant writing** (13-15.00) Seminar (15-16.00)	Sarnecka ch 6