Training in Scientific Writing and Publishing

Delivered by Nature Research journal editors, researchers learn how to publish in top science journals.

masterclasses.nature.com
Nature Masterclasses online and face-to-face training is aimed at researchers of all levels, in the natural sciences.

The training is delivered by editors from the Nature Research journals, giving researchers a first-hand insight into publishing at top tier journals.

Key skills and career development for researchers

- Refine writing skills and build confidence in writing for a top tier journal
- Gain clarity on the editorial processes at top journals, often seen as a ‘black box’
- Find out the best ways of working with editors when submitting a paper or completing a review
- Learn about issues such as the reproducibility of research and using research metrics responsibly

Outcomes for institutions

- Support the professional development of your researchers
- Help improve the quality of your scientific publication output
- Show your commitment to high quality research
- Save supervisors’ time on mentoring
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Scientific Writing and Publishing online course

**Audience**
For students and researchers in the natural sciences who are new to publishing or wish to refresh their skills.

Subscriptions available to institutions, departments, and labs.

**Key features**
- 3-part course with 3 certificates
- 36 editors from 20+ Nature Research journals
- 11 hours of learning
- 10-minute lessons
- English language captions and transcripts

**Skills gained**
- Develop writing skills and confidence writing for journals
- Understand editorial processes and what editors look for
- Learn best practices for submitting a paper and peer review
Our online course takes researchers through the entire publishing process, from writing a paper to publication.

### 3-PART COURSE, 15 MODULES, ~11 HOURS LEARNING TIME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Writing your paper</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>What Makes a Great Paper</td>
<td>What top tier journal editors look for in a paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elements of Writing Style</td>
<td>The golden rules of writing and structuring the text in your paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Titles and Abstracts</td>
<td>How to coax your target audience from the title to the paper itself</td>
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<tr>
<td>From Introduction to Conclusions</td>
<td>A section-by-section guide to making the most of the main text</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Management</td>
<td>How to collect and manage your data, and what to look for when storing and publishing it</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Presentation</td>
<td>How to design clear and informative figures and tables</td>
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<tr>
<td>Authorship and Authors’ Responsibilities</td>
<td>The contributing criteria for authorship and the responsibilities of an author</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selecting a Journal for Publication</td>
<td>Which criteria to consider when choosing a journal to submit to</td>
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<td>Submitting Your Paper</td>
<td>Submission procedures, making a case to editors, and cover letter tips</td>
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<tr>
<td>Understanding Peer Review</td>
<td>An overview of peer review, writing rebuttal letters and how to be a good reviewer yourself</td>
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<td>Journal Decisions</td>
<td>Guidelines to follow after a paper is accepted or requires revision, and dealing with rejection</td>
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<td>The Editorial Process</td>
<td>An overview of editorial processes at top tier journals</td>
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<td>Measuring Impact</td>
<td>An overview of research metrics for research and researchers</td>
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<td>Plagiarism and Other Ethical Issues</td>
<td>Why misconduct happens, what it looks like and what to do about it</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing and Publishing a Review Paper</td>
<td>Tips on writing an objective and balanced review paper</td>
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<td>Writing and Publishing a Review Paper</td>
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EDITORS FROM THE NATURE RESEARCH JOURNALS

The course is delivered by over 30 editors from over 20 Nature Research journals.

Researchers can watch over 170 videos with the editors, giving them a first-hand insight into publishing at top-tier journals.

Plus, all the course content has been peer-reviewed by Nature Research journal editors.

“It is particularly useful to get some insight from the editors themselves about their favorite papers and why.”

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

ONLINE LEARNING DESIGN

Designed for busy researchers

Researchers can choose their own learning path – whether that is working through the course in order, or dipping in and out of modules.

The course is delivered in 3 parts so content is easy to find.

The individual bitesize lessons allow researchers to learn in 10 minutes and fit the course around their work.

Interactive

‘Activities’, such as multiple-choice questions and pairing games, encourage engagement and critical thinking.

Every video includes English language captions and transcripts.

Certificates

Each of the three course-parts offers a certificate-of-completion.
Our scientific writing and publishing webinars enable peer learning and provide an opportunity for interaction with Nature Research journal editors in real time. They can also increase researcher engagement with the online course (when the webinars and course are combined in a training package).

The webinars are available to institutions, for up to 100 of their researchers. Each webinar lasts approximately 90 minutes and is led by two Nature Research journal editors.

**Interactive**

Participants work through examples, and have the opportunity to interact with editors throughout the webinar. They will also share their experience with their peers by participating in polls and Q&A sessions.

**Tailored**

The webinars are tailored to the disciplines and publishing experience of the researchers taking part.

The presenters are matched as closely as possible to the research interests of the attendees and the editors use discipline-specific examples – such as exemplary papers, guidelines for figures and writing tips.

From a webinar ‘Think like an Editor!’, where researchers learn to see their paper from the perspective of editors, readers and reviewers
Our face-to-face masterclasses in scientific writing and publishing have been running since 2011. They are available to public and private institutions globally to host on-site.

Host institutions are encouraged to invite 25 of their researchers¹ and can request a one- or two-day masterclass.²

Nature Research journal editors

Every masterclass is presented by two Nature Research journal editors.

Every researcher receives one-on-one interaction with the editors. They are also able to discuss their own draft abstract with an editor in detail, to help them understand its strengths and weaknesses. This helps reinforce the themes that are developed in the rest of the masterclass.

Interactive

The masterclasses are conducted as interactive workshops based around real examples. Short lectures are interspersed with activities, group discussions and Q&A with the editors.

Tailored by discipline

The editors who lead the masterclass are matched as much as possible to the discipline of the researchers taking part. The editors also use relevant exemplary papers and tips for manuscript writing and structure.

“The one-on-one tuition for my abstract was a great opportunity.”

SHANGHAI TUMOR HOSPITAL

“Everyone that takes this workshop will walk away having learned something new”.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

¹Seminar-style masterclasses are available for groups of up to 100 researchers on request.

²As well as these “sponsored” masterclasses, we offer “open” masterclasses: hosted at one institution and open to individuals from different institutions.
SAMPLE ONE-DAY MASTERCLASS

The agenda is put together based on the institution’s needs. For a one-day masterclass we recommend 6-8 modules, which will be covered in short lectures, and 2-4 activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:15</td>
<td>What Makes a Great Paper</td>
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<td></td>
<td>What top-tier journal editors look for in a manuscript, with examples from Nature publications</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Activity 1: You’re the editor!</td>
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<td>10:30</td>
<td>Data Presentation</td>
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<td>Choosing an appropriate format for your data and best practices</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15</td>
<td>Activity 2: Displaying data</td>
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<td>11:45</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Elements of Writing Style</td>
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<td>Golden rules of writing and structuring the text in your paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45</td>
<td>Q&amp;A with the editors</td>
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<td>13:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>14:00</td>
<td>Titles and Abstracts</td>
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<td>Creating an engaging title, what to avoid, plus abstract templates you can apply to your own writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:45</td>
<td>Activity 3: A review of participants’ abstracts and titles (provided in advance)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:15</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:30</td>
<td>From Introduction to Conclusion</td>
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<td>What to include in (and exclude from) each section, common pitfalls, and how to create a narrative flow</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>The Editorial Process and Peer Review</td>
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<td>What happens to papers once they’ve been submitted, and a crash course in peer review</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:45</td>
<td>Recap and Q&amp;A with the editors</td>
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Editors include real examples from Nature Research journals

Researchers discuss their own abstracts with editors

The breaks provide a good opportunity for researchers to network with the editors and other scientists at the institution
BENEFITING INSTITUTIONS WORLDWIDE
Contact Us

Request training for your department or institution. Choose one training option or combine options.

**Online training**

**Annual Subscriptions**
- Lab subscriptions for up to 15 researchers
- Departmental subscriptions for up to 100 researchers
- Institution-wide subscriptions

**Subscription support**
- Usage reports
- Promotional resources to drive usage
- Dedicated account support

**Webinar training**

**Format**
- Up to 100 researchers
- Approximately 1.5 hours

**Support**
- Resources to drive and capture researcher registration
- A post-webinar engagement report
- Dedicated account support

**Face-to-face training**

**Format**
- Approximately 25 researchers
- One- or two-day, on-site at your institution

**Support**
- Dedicated account support
- Workbooks and certificates of achievement for all participants
- A comprehensive report after the masterclass, including participant feedback

**REQUEST A QUOTE VIA OUR WEBSITE:**
masterclasses.nature.com
DON’T MISS OUT

FREE COURSE
Researchers can access our online course ‘Focus on Peer Review’ for free at masterclasses.nature.com.

COMING SOON
New online course coming in September 2019: ‘Effective Collaboration in Research’. Be the first to access the course – join the waiting list on our website!