

**UPDATED: 25 January 2021**

## **Course Syllabus**

### **Course Description**

This class will focus on developing the skills and mindset to communicate concisely and effectively about your scholarly interests. While emphasis is placed on writing, this class is more about how to frame and discuss your research ideas both on paper and in person.

### **Course Information**

**Course Name:** Proposal and Article Writing

**Course Number:** EVPP 692 & 991

**Course Instructor:** Dr. Scott Glaberman

**Course Format:** Online (Zoom) Synchronous

**Course Time:** Tuesdays 4:30-6:20 pm

**Instructor Contact:** [sglaberm@gmu.edu](mailto:sglaberm@gmu.edu)

### **Course Objectives**

What you will learn in this class:

- Where to look for scholarly funding
- How to structure a winning grant proposal
- How to frame a high-impact scientific paper
- How to position yourself for career success

What you will produce in this class:

- A compelling 30-second summary of your research interests and goals
- A highly refined research proposal summary in NSF format
- A high-impact, Nature style synopsis of your current research
- An effective 1-2 page resume

### **Course Grading**

This course is self-graded. You will use the course rubric to determine your level of effort and mastery of the course material. Students are expected to complete all assignments and participate in class discussion. In extreme cases, if you don't engage in the course, meaning you don't attend class, complete exercises, or participate in group work, I reserve the right to change your grade according to the rubric.

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### **Grading Scheme**

<b>Number Grade</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>
97-100	A+
93-96	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
70-76	C
60-69	D
<60	F

### **Tentative Class Schedule**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Class Exercise</b>	<b>Homework*</b>
<b>1/26</b>	Introduction	Getting to know each other	Choose target journals
<b>2/2</b>	The diversity of funding	Funding discussion	Find potential funding sources
<b>2/9</b>	Picking apart papers I	Paper discussion I	Read target papers
<b>2/16</b>	Picking apart papers II	Paper discussion II	Narrow potential funding sources
<b>2/23</b>	Framing a proposal I	Writing discussion	1 <sup>st</sup> draft proposal
<b>3/2</b>	Framing a proposal II	Proposal review I	2 <sup>nd</sup> draft proposal
<b>3/9</b>	Framing a proposal III	Proposal review II	3 <sup>rd</sup> draft proposal
<b>3/16</b>	Nature article I	Writing discussion	1 <sup>st</sup> draft paper
<b>3/23</b>	Nature article II	Paper review I	2 <sup>nd</sup> draft paper
<b>3/30</b>	Nature article III	Paper review II	3 <sup>rd</sup> draft paper
<b>4/6</b>	30-second thesis I	General Discussion	Develop 30-second thesis
<b>4/13</b>	30-second thesis II	30-second thesis practice	Draft 1-2 page resume
<b>4/20</b>	Planning for success	Resume review	Finalize materials
<b>4/27</b>	Course review	Discuss products	Write, Write, Write

\* Homework always due in the next class

### **Scheduled Guest Lectures**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Guest Speaker</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
<b>2/9</b>	Foundations and philanthropic funds	Audrey Kelaheer	Director of Development, College of Science, George Mason University
<b>4/6</b>	The NSF review process and crafting effective proposals	Dr. Suk-Wah Tam-Chang	Program Director, Division of Chemistry, National Science Foundation