





Zurich-Basel Plant Science Center

PhD Program in Plant Sciences: Scientific Writing Practice II

Lecturer:	Dr. Réka Mihálka
Location:	ETH Center, tbd
Dates:	24.04./29.04./06.05.2024
Credit Points:	1 ECTS

Course Description

This course is tailored to the scientific writing needs of PhD students in plant sciences. We cover topics such as the writing process, outlining, macro-, paragraph and sentence structure, style, punctuation, and the publication process. Participants will also learn about and practice the effective and responsible use of AI-based tools. In our hands-on approach, course participants will analyse and produce texts, focusing on the structure, clarity, precision, conciseness, and reader-friendliness of writing. To maximize the effectiveness of this course particularly, we ask participants to bring their own writing projects to class. During the course, they will receive peer and expert feedback on their texts.

Learning Outcomes

After the completion of the course, participants will be able to do the following:

- Manage the writing process
- Plan, draft, and revise scientific texts efficiently and effectively
- Write according to disciplinary standards and expectations
- Provide constructive feedback on scientific texts
- Select appropriate AI-based tools for writing and declare their use

Course Program

- Day 1: The writing process and writing aids; Targeting journals; Effective outlining; Reader-friendly sentence structures; Paragraph structure and creating flow
- **Day 2:** Macrostructure; Crafting the research story; Integrating visuals in articles; The main sections (methods, results, discussion); Literature review
- **Day 3:** Introduction; Conclusion; Abstract and title; Reviewing and revising; The publishing process

Number of Participants: Participation is limited to 16 people.

Prerequisite: Course participants are requested to bring a previous and a current writing project to class.







Assessment

Students receive formative feedback on their writing. To earn credits, participants are required to actively participate in classes and complete assignments in a timely manner.