

Scuola Superiore di Catania

Corso Interdisciplinare

a.a. 2018-2019

Scrittura accademica e scientifica

Modulo scrittura accademica

- Acquisizione delle tecniche di citazione diretta, indiretta, incrociata.
- Montaggio delle citazioni
- Intreccio fra fonti primarie e secondarie in base alla critica testuale.
- Contestualizzazione interna (teoria) ed esterna (storia)

Tale programma sarà svolto considerando la relazione fra conoscenza scientifica e letteratura. Attenzione particolare sarà riservata in campo letterario all'opera di Edgar Allan Poe.

Modulo scrittura scientifica

Hands on Writing: How to Master Academic Writing in the Sciences

The course is specifically designed for students intending to write a research paper, a PhD thesis, or a dissertation and it articulates over the five key steps of the writing process: pre-writing, drafting, revising, editing, proofreading. The course covers about 15 hours, over three days, and is intended to provide opportunities for the students to practise the techniques presented in each step through hands-on activities in the class.

Step 1: Pre-writing

The purpose of this step is to learn about some basic aspects of academic writing already at the *reading* stage. Topics covered include:

- Reading to understand content, structure and style
- Extracting key information from published papers
- Planning a literature review
- Developing templates for each section (Abstract, Introduction, Methods, Data Analysis and Results, Discussion and Conclusions)

Step 2: Drafting

During this step, students will learn how to produce relatively large amounts of content over a short period of time. This work will form the basis for the following steps where students will spend enough time revising and polishing. Topics covered include:

- Talking about research
- Mind maps and structured layouts
- Core dumps

Step 3: Revising

The purpose of this step is to start working at the content, paying specific attention to its overall structure. Topics covered include:

- Common problems of early drafts and the triage approach
- Paragraphs as building blocks
- Reverse outline
- Parallel structure
- The importance of feedback

Step 4: Editing

This is where writing meets elegance. In this step students will learn to improve their style by carefully paying attention to the choice of words and the usage of language. Topics covered include:

- The Writer's Diet Test: How good is your writing?
- Scientific style in academic writing
- Tips for improved style
- De-cluttering text

Step 5: Proofreading

The purpose of this step is to make sure the final work looks professional and error-free. Topics covered include:

- The importance of details
- Punctuation and grammar mistakes
- Formatting conventions
- Citations and bibliographies

Additional material will also be presented to discuss best practice in producing good figures and tables and to adopt the appropriate writer's mind set to avoid procrastination and to stay on track.

The course will be delivered in English.