

Agenda and Objectives

By the end of today, you should understand:

- How to get the most out of the writing process
 - Editorial processes and how to work with them
 - What it takes to get published in top-ranked journals
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Day 1

09:00 Welcome and Introductions

09:15 What makes a *Nature* paper?

Example of what top tier journal editors look for in a manuscript

10:00 Practical exercise 1: You're the Editor – Making a Decision

10:30 Selecting a Journal

Finding the best publication for your paper

11:00 Break

11:15 Figure Presentation

The first steps when creating a paper: designing clear and informative figures and tables.

12:00 Elements of Writing Style

The golden rules of writing and structuring the text in your paper

12:30 Lunch

13:30 Practical exercise 2: Brevity

13:45 Titles and Abstracts

A guide to structuring each part of the paper to facilitate clear writing of the Title and Abstract

14:30 From Introduction to Conclusion

A guide to structuring each part of the paper to facilitate clear writing of the Introduction, Results and Discussion.

15:00 Break

15:15 Plagiarism and Other Ethical Issues

Why misconduct happens, what it looks like and what to do about it

16:00 Authorship and Authors' Responsibilities

The contributing criteria for authorship and the responsibilities of an author

16:15 Discussion

16:30 End of day and homework

Day 2

09:00 Recap and overview

09:15 Submitting your Paper

Submission procedures, making a case to editors, and tips on structuring and writing a good cover letter

09:45 Practical exercise 3: Reviewing your abstracts (homework)

11:15 Break

11:30 The Editorial Process

An overview of editorial processes at top tier journals.

12:00 Practical exercise 4: Deciphering Decision Letters

12:30 Lunch

13:30 Mechanisms of Peer Review

An overview of peer-review, tips on writing rebuttal letters when responding to reviewer's comments, and how to be a good peer reviewer yourself.

14:15 Practical exercise 5: You're the Editor - Referee Reports (1)

15:00 Break

15:15 Journal Decisions

What happens next? Guidelines to follow after a paper is accepted or requires revision, and dealing with rejection.

15:45 Practical exercise 6: Referee Reports (2)

16:30 Discussion

16:45 End of day