

EEB 603: Advanced Topics: Scientific Writing

Professor: Dr. Elizabeth Derryberry (liz@utk.edu) 537 Hesler (office hours by appointment)

Course description: The goal of this course is to provide a foundation for productive scientific writing. The course emphasizes a practical understanding of scientific writing through a process of weekly writing and peer review. All students are expected to make progress on their writing goals each week and to be the main presenter at least once during the course of the semester. In addition, students are expected to peer review the work of another class member each week (their partner) as well as the work of the main presenter.

Course outcomes: EEB 603 Scientific Writing is an advanced topics course in ecology and evolutionary biology. Students are expected to invest a minimum of two hours to writing and one hour to peer review each week. The primary outcome of this course is the production and submission of manuscripts to peer-reviewed journals and/or grants to active requests for proposals.

Disability Services: If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a documented disability, please let me know and contact the Student Disability Services at 100 Dunford Hall (website: <https://sds.utk.edu/>; phone: 865-974-6087; e-mail: sds@utk.edu) at the **beginning** of the semester. This will ensure that you are properly registered for services.

Academic Conduct: If you have not already done so, you should consult the “Academic Policies” section of your UT 2017-2018 Graduate Catalog. Note that manuscripts and grants contain the ideas and investment of the lead author and often of a broader research group. As such, everyone needs to respect the confidentiality of these materials. No one from outside the class should be invited to the shared class DropBox folder. Documents should not be shared with anyone without the express approval in writing of the lead author. If you ever have questions regarding how to handle a document, please let me know.

Classroom Courtesy: I expect everyone in the class to respect one another and to be professional. Please respect deadlines and arrive to class on time. Please be invested and constructive in your peer review comments. If you must miss a deadline or miss class, please inform your partner and myself ASAP. If you ever have questions or concerns about the nature or tone of feedback received in this class, please let me know.

Grading and Evaluation: Grading and evaluation will be based on the following: weekly progress on writing goals, weekly investment in the peer-review process, constructive engagement during class meetings, and submission of a manuscript and/or grants to RFPs during the semester.