

English for Scientific Communication

PhD students. 20-30 hours. Zoom or face-to-face. Participants: max. 24 Zoom; unlimited face-to-face

Writing and presentation skills are NOT taught in separate courses. Instead, they are integrated into one course in order to create more dynamic lessons.

The course teaches not only how to write and present a scientific article, but how to communicate effectively with editors and colleagues. These skills are applicable in any language and in any situation.

Students are encouraged to form a working network outside the lessons in order to practise oral presentations as well as to discuss ideas in the academic / scientific field.

How to write a research paper for publication in an international journal and deal with editors

Students will learn how to:

- increase readability, reduce the number of mistakes made in English, and avoid redundancy
- formulate a sentence respecting the rules of English syntax
- write a title and an abstract that will attract attention and thus be read
- decide what to include in the various parts of the article (abstract, introduction, discussion, etc.)
- choose the correct tenses and the correct style (active or passive, personal or impersonal)
- highlight gap filled, key findings, and overall contribution
- avoid ambiguities due to errors in the use of pronouns, tenses, and keywords
- avoid plagiarism
- deal with editors and referees (emails)

How to present research at an international conference

Students will learn how to:

- give presentations both in person and online
- deal with nerves and being the centre of attention
- design, practise and deliver a well-structured and interesting presentation
- create attractive and easy-to-understand slides
- avoid mistakes in English by using simple and short sentences
- decide what to say in each step of the presentation
- improve pronunciation and intonation in English
- gain confidence and overcome nervousness and embarrassment
- attract and retain the attention of listeners
- ensure a memorable take-home message
- deal with the Q&A session

Notes on the course are available as a download and are part of the [Pack](#).

Contact: adrian.wallwork@gmail.com

Why and how to use Google Translate

Researchers, ELT teachers, translators. 4 hours. Zoom. Participants: 4-8

Our studies with PhD students and employees at IT companies in Italy have shown that Google Translate (GT) consistently outperforms a non-native English translator.

However, very few people in academia use GT. They erroneously believe that it makes an unacceptable number of mistakes.

These mistakes were common ten years ago, but not now. Also, people forget that when humans do a translation manually they always have to check their initial draft. The same is true with GT – you cannot simply accept GT's translation as is. Of course it does contain some mistakes – sometimes really big ones! So any translation that GT performs needs to be subjected to the same scrutiny as a human translation.

When carrying out a translation on academic / scientific / technical texts, the fact is that GT is not only much quicker than a human, but is actually more accurate too.

In this course you will learn:

- how to prepare the source text BEFORE submitting it to GT
- how to correct GT's translation

Only the basic function of GT is used, i.e. <https://translate.google.com/?sl=it&tl=en&op=translate>

If you are a researcher, you may find it easier simply to write in your own language and then Google Translate it into English. You can then either check it yourself, or get a native speaker to check it for you.

If you are an ELT or ESL teacher, this course will help you do quicker and more accurate translations of the kinds of documents that students and friends may give you to translate.

If you are a professional translator and you don't already use Google Translate, then put your prejudices away and try this course!

Contact: adrian.wallwork@gmail.com

How to teach English for Academic Purposes (EAP)

ELT/ESL teachers. 24 hours. Zoom. Participants: 4-8

ELT / ESL teachers often find themselves having to do an EAP course at a local university – and are often totally unprepared / unqualified. They may know little or nothing about what they are actually preparing their students to do:

- write an essay, thesis, or paper for publication in an international journal
- do a presentation (online or in person) of their research

When teaching university students you cannot simply go into the lecture hall and wing it. Nor can you teach a few grammar and ‘useful phrases’ rules for writing papers, plus a few pronunciation tips for a presentation. And you shouldn’t try to get away with having the last few hours of the course with the students presenting to each other. This approach, which unfortunately is very common outside the UK and US (and other English-speaking countries), will rarely equip your students with what they really need.

Our course teaches you how to structure an EAP course, where each lesson focuses on giving students strategies for writing and presenting, and where each exercise is quick (2-5 minutes) - whether it is writing or presenting. You will learn that many strategies are not specifically to do with the English language, but are applicable to any language. English is often, in fact, the least of the students’ problems.

You will learn key points about the academic world and the most effective way to communicate within that world.

Much of this course is based on our course *English for Scientific Communication* (see top of this document). You will do many of the exercises that the students themselves have to do, e.g. present slides, write parts of a paper, write effective emails, and learn how to give constructive feedback.

After the course you will have access to all E4AC’s teaching materials (a series of seminars in PowerPoint and lesson notes), which you can then adapt for your own courses. You will also receive recommendations regarding which chapters in our various books on *English for Research* (publ. SpringerNature) will help you in your teaching.

Contact: adrian.wallwork@gmail.com