

# Training for researchers who want to improve their scientific writing

## Training sessions to be taken separately or together during one week

- Workshop on Critical Reading: discussion of texts brought by participants (1 day)
- Writing Course 1: 'Effective development and writing of scientific manuscripts' (2 days)
- Writing Course 2: 'Manuscript writing – from good to excellent' (2 days)

Guaranteed result: clearer, easier-to-read manuscripts with fewer words to proofread!  
The training sessions can have maximum 12 participants.

Target group: Researchers in the life sciences; writers, editors and supervisors involved in basic or applied research designed to explore, describe or explain.

## Times (9 am–4 pm each day), place, price and registration spring 2018

*A full week of training is most useful, but each session can be taken separately and still be valuable.*

Workshop: 18 April, 28 May (Oslo)

Writing Course 1: 19–20 April (Oslo), 29–30 May (Oslo)

Workshop and Writing Course 1 combined: 5–7 February (Trondheim)

Writing Course 2: 23–24 April, 31 May–1 June (Oslo)

Full week of training: Week 15/9–13 April (Bergen)

Weeks 15 (Bergen [only full week]) and 22 (Oslo [can be taken in parts]) 2018 contain all three training sessions.

**Place:** Oslo Forskningsparken, Gaustadalléen 21; Bergen UiB; Trondheim St. Olavs Hospital

**Price per training session:** 2500 kr. for the 1-day workshop, 4500 kr. for the 2-day courses, 7000 kr. for the 3-day course, 10.000 kr. for a full week.

For the writing courses, the price includes binders with course slides and exercises.

**How to register:** Send an e-mail to kari@limwric.no with information about which training session you wish to attend, and the information needed for invoicing.

**Training can also be arranged in-house upon request.**

## Comments from participants in training events

*The course was very interesting, productive, relevant, useful and well structured. Nice references for continued work. Good examples point to pitfalls and show how to avoid them. I got a lot of helpful tips for developing a high-quality manuscript. Good balance between presentations and exercises. To work with one's own project is very good, going through exercises in plenum was especially important, as it raises awareness about language issues. The course will save me a lot of time on manuscript writing in the future, since I now have appropriate tools and more confidence. To the point advice. Fills a need, no other courses like these. I find I have developed a much more critical eye, and I do believe this will be very useful both in manuscript writing and in research in general. The workshop was a useful preparation for the writing courses and should be taken first.*





**Course leader** – Kari Skinningsrud, bilingual (English and Norwegian)

- MSc (chem) from NTNU (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)
- Experienced trainer in scientific writing for Universities in Norway and abroad, and for professional medical writers at biannual EMWA (European Medical Writers Association) conferences.

- Has been a medical writer for pharmaceutical industry – as an employee and freelancer – for more than 15 years, and has an advanced EMWA certificate of medical writing
- Member of EMWA's professional development committee ([www.emwa.org](http://www.emwa.org)) since 2013.
- Invited speaker on the topic 'manuscript writing' at the ESMO (European Society of Medical Oncology) Young Oncologist Forum, in Madrid 2014.

## Preparations and what you will learn

*For all the training events, you will be asked to bring a paper of relevance for your research, published in a journal considered to be good in your field. You can be, but do not have to be an author of the paper/text you submit. Your selected text should be sent to the course leader well in advance of the training events.*

**Workshop on critical reading:** It raises awareness about many typical/unfortunate issues (to improve) found in scientific papers, that are covered in the writing courses. Increases output from writing courses.

### Writing Course 1: 'Effective development and writing of scientific manuscripts'

**Preparations.** From your selected paper, you will be asked to send the following to the course leader: a purpose statement (aim or hypothesis), and a figure (and legends) or table presenting results.

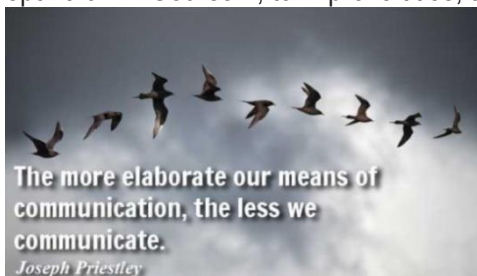
**You will learn** about how to increase the impact of publications by clarifying knowledge gaps and formulating effective purpose statements; to write concisely by using an outline format; to develop a storyline, and how to tackle main challenges within the standard (IMRaD/IRDaM) article sections. You will also learn to work more efficiently by developing content in a gradual stepwise manner, and by having a strategy for how to work with co-authors.

### Writing Course 2: 'Manuscript writing – from good to excellent'

The course content is based mainly on the texts that participants send the course leader in advance.

**Preparations.** Read the text you submit carefully and critically. Make notes about issues in the discussion section that impede reading, and suggest improvements.

**You will learn** about characteristics of good writing, use of discourse features to link information and create flow and coherence; how to avoid monotony; to write and structure discussion sections more in depth than in Course 1; to improve titles, and how to communicate with editors.



<http://quotes.jifhack.org/media/quotes/quote-Ernest-Hemingway-we-are-all-apprentices-in-a-craft-103398.png>, <http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/j/josephpri335782.html>



Send an e-mail to [kari@limwric.no](mailto:kari@limwric.no) to get contact information for people who will vouch for the training.

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