

# A Curriculum for Science Communication

- Each workshop is offered twice in the same week at two locations:  
Tuesdays in MI 411 & Fridays in Wean 8325 at 4:30 PM
- A [calendar is available online](#)
- Workshops are self-contained and free for grad students, post-docs, staff
- E-mail Ardon at [AShorr@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:AShorr@andrew.cmu.edu) or [schedule an appointment](#)

## Fall: Presentation

**Structuring Presentation** October 9 & 12

Series overview, organizing and structuring information for clarity and logic.

**Graphic Design: Clear Thinking Made Visible** October 23 & 26

Creating and revising persuasive graphics for figures, slides, and posters.  
Analysis of the structure of visual argument.

**Distilling Your Message** November 6 & 9

Elevator pitch, 3-minute thesis, finding your message.

**Telling Science Stories** November 13 & 16

Crafting narrative, navigating detail, public communication

**Crafting Explanations** November 27 & 30

Analysis and construction of explanatory metaphors.

**Vocal Delivery** December 4 & 7

Exercises to develop awareness of speed, volume, clarity, verbal tics.  
Understanding anxiety and performance.

## Spring: Scientific Writing

**Developing an Effective Writing Process**

Dispelling misconceptions, best practices for writing, feedback, and revision.

## **Understanding Reader Expectation**

Learn where readers expect information and how structure affects emphasis.

## **Anatomy of an Abstract**

Analyzing the structure and rhetorical moves of an abstract, practice revision.

## **Grant Proposals**

How readers find the information they need to advocate for your work.

## **Applying for an NSF-GRFP**

Generating an original idea, intellectual merit, broader impacts, personal statements.

## **Graphic Design: Clear Thinking Made Visible**

Creating and revising persuasive graphics for figures, slides, and posters.

## **Practice and Feedback**

Facilitated peer review of journal articles, proposals, NSF-GRFP.

## **Coherence and Cohesion**

Linguistic cues that signal emphasis, transition, cause and effect.

# **Summer: Professional Development**

## **Career Options Within Academia**

Making an Individual Development Plan, how and why to post-doc, tenure.

## **Beyond Academia**

Informational interviews, how to transition, what's out there, MyIDP.

## **My Heart is in the Network**

Proper etiquette to build, maintain, and make requests from a network.

## **Writing a Resume**

Analyzing job postings, crafting a targeted resume and CV.

## **But I Have No skills!**

Reframing how you talk about your work, preparing for an interview.