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 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.