

How to write and publish remote sensing papers: A short course

Timothy Warner
West Virginia University

Publications have become the key measure of scientific productivity. Despite the importance of publishing, few scientists are given training in how to write effective scientific papers. Furthermore, the process of publishing scientific papers has its own culture and norms that can be difficult to understand. This course gives an overview of the publishing world, with a focus on scientific communication and navigation of the paper submission and review process. The course is typically taught over one week. It includes lectures and exercises.

Course topics

1. Introduction
2. The scholarly publishing world: publishing, journals, scientific communication
3. Scientific ethics & plagiarism
4. “The hook”, “elevator speech” and the knowledge gap
5. Science and narrative: “Telling your story”
6. The structure of scientific papers
7. Visual communication (1) Maps
8. Visual communication (2) Graphs and flow charts
9. Quantitative communication: Tables, equations and numbers
10. Scientific English: (1) Voice and tense
11. Scientific English: (2) Sentence and paragraphs
12. Scientific English: (3) Articles and other grammatical issues
13. Submitting your paper
14. Dealing with revisions