

DISSERTATION WRITING
ANG 6930
Spring 2018
Monday 7 - 9 (1:55 PM - 4:55 PM)
WEIL 0273

Instructor: Dr. Marit Ostebo
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Office hours: Tuesday 2-3:45 and by appointment

Course description

This is a hands-on, interactive writing seminar that takes you through the various stages of writing a dissertation, a chapter or a journal article. Part of class time will be spent on active writing – so-called “shut-up-and-write” sessions. I will be using the book “Writing Your Journal Article in 12 Weeks” to structure the course. While this book is particularly tailored to writing an article, many of the principles and topics addressed in the book, is applicable to dissertation writing. You will be introduced to various web-based tools that can help you manage your time and your writing.

Required texts

Belcher, W. L. (2009) Writing Your Journal Article in 12 Weeks

Sword, H. (2017) Air & Light & Time & Space

Sword, H. (2016) The Writer’s Diet. A Guide to Fit Prose.

Narayan, K. (2012) Alive in the Writing. Crafting Ethnography in the Company of Chekhov

Class schedule

(Note: I reserve the right to modify the course schedule).

Week 1 (January 8):

Introduction: Course preview and expectations

Week 2 (NO CLASS – PUBLIC HOLIDAY):

Week 3 (January 22)

Read and go through the tasks assigned in Belcher’s “Week 1. Designing Your Plan for Writing” and “Week 2. Starting Your Article”

Read pp. 1-55 in Sword (2017)

Week 4 (January 29)

Read and go through the tasks assigned in Belcher’s “Week 3. Advancing Your Argument”

Read pp. 57-89 in Sword (2017)

Week 5 (February 5)

Read and go through the tasks assigned in Belcher’s “Week 4. Selecting a Journal.

Read pp. 90-122 in Sword (2017)

Week 5 (February 12)

Read and go through the tasks assigned in Belcher’s “Week 5. Reviewing the Related Literature”

Read pp. 123-151 (2017)

Week 6 (February 19)

Read and go through the tasks assigned in Belcher’s “Week 6. Strengthening the Structure.

Read pp. 153-193 in Sword (2017)

Week 7 (February 26)

Read and go through the tasks assigned in Belcher’s “Week 7. Presenting Your Evidence.

Read pp. 195-206 in Sword (2017)

Week 8 (SPRINGBREAK)

Week 9 (March 5)

Read and go through the tasks assigned in Belcher’s “Week 8. Opening and Concluding Your Article.

Read Introduction and Chapter 1 in Sword (2016)

Read Chapter 1 in Narayan (2012)

Week 10 (March 12)

Read and go through the tasks assigned in Belcher’s “Week 9: Giving, Getting and Using Others’ Feedback

Read Chapter 2 in Sword (2016)

Read Chapter 2 in Narayan (2012)

Week 11 (March 19)

Read and go through the tasks assigned in Belcher's "Week 10. Editing Your Sentences".

Read Chapter 3 in Sword (2016)

Read Chapter 3 in Narayan (2012)

Week 12 (March 26)

Read and go through the tasks assigned in Belcher's "Week 11. Wrapping Up Your Article."

Read Chapter 4 in Sword (2016)

Read Chapter 4 in Narayan (2012)

Week 13 (April 2)

Read and go through the tasks assigned in Belcher's "Week 12. Sending Your Article."

Read Chapter 5 in Sword (2016)

Read Chapter 5 in Narayan (2012)

Week 14 (April 9)

Read and go through the tasks assigned in Belcher's "Week X. Responding to Journal Decisions."

Read Afterword in Sword (2016)

Read Postscript in Narayan (2012)

Week 15 (April 16)

TBD

Week 16 (April 23)

TBD

Class requirements and assignments

Attendance (100 points)

Since the course only meets once a week, full attendance in all classes is essential. More than one absence may lower your grade. If you have an excusable absence (see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>) let me know in advance and I will consider whether you have to make up for the absence in one or another way.

Participation in Class (100 points)

You are expected to keep up with the readings and to come to class well prepared and make thoughtful, relevant contributions to class discussions.

UF Policies

Academic Honesty:

When students enroll at UF they commit themselves to honesty and integrity. As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement: "I understand the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and

understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.” On work submitted for credit by UF students, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

Campus Helping Resources:

Students experiencing crisis or personal problems that interfere with their general wellbeing are encouraged to utilize the university’s counseling resources. The UF Counseling and Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students.

1. Counseling and Wellness Center, <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>
2. Student Health Care Center: <http://shcc.ufl.edu/>

For an overview of various resources see <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help>

Disabilities:

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter, which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Technical assistance:

For issues with technical difficulties for E-learning in Sakai, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>