George Mason University
College of Education and Human Development
Exercise, Fitness & Health Promotion

EFHP 690.002 – Scientific Communications Seminar
1 Credits, Spring 2018
Tuesdays: 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM
204 Colgan Hall- Science & Technology Campus

Faculty
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Prerequisites/Corequisites
Graduate standing or permission of the instructor

University Catalog Course Description
Studies and applies written and verbal communication skills in reading, analyzing, writing, and distributing scientific information in Applied Kinesiology.

Course Overview
In this course students learn the skills required for scientific communications. Students will review scientific information presented in professional and popular media. Students will also develop a scientific communication proposal that will include describing the significance   ability to communicate will be evaluated using in a variety of formats as they present information. Additionally, students will explore various career opportunities available and identify skills, knowledge and abilities employers are currently seeking. Professional communication skills will be developed by a number of in-class and out-of-class activities.

Course Delivery Method
This course is delivered through classroom instruction (face to face), and online assignments.

Learner Outcomes or Objectives
This course is designed to enable students to do the following:

1. Review and evaluate the quality of scientific literature
2. Present scientific information using professional written and verbal communication formats
3. Evaluate personal strengths and weaknesses in light of demands and expectations of employment in the various positions in the field
4. Explore career opportunities in the professional field.
5. Develop professional and inter-personal skills desired by employers

Required Texts
N/A

Course Performance Evaluation
Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard, Tk20, hard copy).

- **Assignments and/or Examinations**
    - **Project timelines**
        - Design a detailed timeline for your project. Include major deadlines. Within each of the major deadlines, include smaller tasks that will help you meet your deadlines.
    - **Article discussion or topic presentation**
        - Choose a research article from your area of interest and lead a class discussion or choose a topic of interest to prepare a lecture for
    - **Candidate interview reflection**
        - We have candidates for a faculty position at Mason who will be doing site visits this semester. Attend one interview/presentation and write a 1 page critique.
    - **Final Project Presentation**
        - Here is your opportunity to practice your project defense before the big day.
    - **Peer Critique**
        - Provide constructive feedback to your peers about their presentation.
- **Other Requirements**
    - **Attendance**
        - Students are expected to be on time, attend all class meetings and be prepared for in class assignments and projects. Excused absences include the following: illness (must bring a receipt or note from a doctor), family death, athletic/academic event, and others at the discretion of the instructor. For known upcoming absences, students must contact the instructor at least one week in advance to the missed class to make up work. In the case of illness or some other unforeseen absence, the student must contact the instructor via e-mail or telephone. At the next attended class meeting the student will discuss material that is to be completed. It is the student's obligation to pursue any make-up work.

    - **Academic Load**
        - Although many students must work to meet living expenses, employment and personal responsibilities are not acceptable reasons for late arrivals, missed classes, or incomplete assignments. Employment must not take priority over academic responsibilities. For additional information on this subject, please see the GMU Academic Catalog (http://catalog.gmu.edu/content.php?catoid=5&navoid=104#Registration_atte ndance). Students failing to observe these guidelines should expect no

special consideration for academic problems arising from the pressures of employment.

- o **Honor Code**
    - Students are held to the standards of the George Mason University Honor Code (see http://honorcode.gmu.edu for details). Violations, including cheating and plagiarism, will be reported to the Honor Committee. Student assignments may be put through plagiarism detecting software.

- o **Written Assignments**
    - All assignments must be typed in Microsoft Word, and formatted as follows (*unless otherwise specified*): double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins, your name and title in the running header at top left had corner, continuous line numbers on left margin, and page numbers centered in footer. Failure to comply with any or all parts of this format will result in an unacceptable assignment, which corresponds to zero (0) points.
    - Pay close attention to spelling and grammar as these will count towards your grade on written assignments. American Medical Association Manual (AMA) of Style (10th edition) format must be used for all written work in this class (e.g., in referencing, creation of tables, and formatting headers for paper sections).
    - Assignments must be turned in on Blackboard/MyMason Portal by the beginning of class on the specified date due (*unless otherwise specified*). No late assignments will be accepted. It is recommended that students keep copies of all submitted work.

- o **Technology Use During Class**
    - As per GMU policy, all sound emitting technology is required to be turned off during the class meeting time. No sound emitting technology (e.g., cell phones, smart phones, iPads, Tablets, pagers, etc.) is allowed at any time during the class period. Students who are observed using any form of technology inappropriately (e.g., sending text messages from cell phones, visiting social networking sites from laptops, etc) will be dismissed from class for the day, counted as an absence, and not permitted to make up missed assignments. Additionally, no laptop computers (e.g., netbooks, notebooks, etc.) will be permitted for use during class time unless with permission from the instructor.

- o **E-mail Correspondence**
    - Only messages that originate from a George Mason University address will be accepted. ***Emails with no text in the body will not be acknowledged.*** *Note:* All email will be responded to in the order in which it is received. Students should allow 48 hours for a response.

- ○ **Grading**

Assignments	% of Total Grade
Project Timelines	10%
Article / Topic Presentations	10%
Candidate Interview Reflection	10%
Final Project Presentation	10%
Peer Critique	10%
Class Participation & Attendance	50%
Total	100%

Grade	Percentage	Quality Points	Grade	Percentage	Quality Points
A	93%	4.00	B-	80%	2.67*
A-	90%	3.67	C	73%	2.00
B+	87%	3.33	F	<73%	0.00
B	83%	3.00			

Professional Dispositions

See https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/

Class Schedule

Week / Date	Topic	Chapter/Assignment Due
1 / Jan 23	Welcome Back! Overview of course and project update	Submit project timeline by Sunday
2 / Jan 30	Project timelines	
3 / Feb 6	What do you want to do when you graduate?	
4 / Feb 13	What to ask during a job interview	
5 / Feb 20	Good and bad presentations	
6 / Feb 27	Article discussion or teach a topic	
7 / Mar 6	Article discussion or teach a topic	
8 / Mar 13	*No Class- Spring break*	
9 / Mar 20	TBD	
10 / Mar 27	In class work day	
11 / Apr 3	TBD	
12 / Apr 10	Presentations	
13 / Apr 17	Presentations	
14 / Apr 24	Presentations	
15 / May 1	Presentations	

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

Core Values Commitment

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/.

GMU Policies and Resources for Students

Policies

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code/).

- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/).

- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students **solely** through their Mason email account.

- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see http://ods.gmu.edu/).

- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be silenced during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to tk20help@gmu.edu or https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to http://coursessupport.gmu.edu/.
- For information on student support resources on campus, see https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/ .