Welcome to Writing for Publication. This is primarily a production course as you will be writing with the goal of potentially publishing something in your respective field of interest. Unlike most graduate seminars, this course is not content-centered (although we will read several scholarly articles), but instead it aims to provide a learning context where you can develop your scholarly writing.

To this end, you will work on primarily one piece of writing for the entire semester. Working with your peers in the class, you will write in a somewhat systematic fashion and develop your own system for developing publishable quality articles. The following is a listing of the various goals, activities, and components of the course:

**Overall Goals for the Semester**
- Develop a topic and point of significance
- Gain understanding of professional forum/audience
- Write a review of literature
- Write a proposal for a publication
- Conduct research as appropriate for topic/method
- Write a page a day
- Research and understand variety of potential forums
- Work with peers in process/Be an editor
- Explore publication processes
- Complete a draft of your piece
- Analyze different publication venues and processes
- Talk with some editors
- Understand your own writing process/become independent
- Enjoy yourself

**Explore Genres (Print and On-line)**
- Book Reviews
- Book Commentaries
- Comparative Reviews
- Professional Newsletters
- Book Chapters
- Articles
- Proceedings
- Bibliographic Essays
- Editorials
- Edited Collections
- Monographs
- Conference Presentations

**Write Proposals**
- For You
- For a Forum/Field
- Queries
- For a Conference
- For Funding

**Explore Forums/Audiences**
- Professional Journals
- Academic Journals
- Magazines
- Book Collections
- Academic Audiences
- Non-academic Audiences
- Popular Audiences
- Solicited/unsolicited pieces
- Peer review pieces

**Read Various Scholarly Approaches**
- Theoretical Purpose
- Historical Purpose
- Empirical Purpose
- Pedagogical Purpose
- Academic Arena
- Workplace Arena

**Review General Research Methods**
- Empirical
- Historical/Arcival
- Pedagogical
- Theoretical
Week 1: May 9
• Decide on a topic, probably from an existing paper;
• Write a one or two page pre-proposal;
• Peer review the pre-proposal;
• Read “How to Publish in Scholarly Journals” (pdf provided).
• Week’s Goal: Revise proposal and begin doing more research

Week 2: May 16
• Start to expand your proposal
• Begin a review of literature
• Read article on historical scholarship
• Form initial peer groups
• Skim Chaps 1&2 of “12 Weeks”
• Week’s Goal: write 3-5 pages
• Share draft with peers

Week 3: May 23
• Write up method/methodology
• Investigate potential journals
• Begin to develop your argument
• Read theoretical article
• Investigate co-authorship
• Skim Chaps 3&4 of “12 Weeks”
• Week’s Goal: Write 3-5 pages
• Share draft with peers and Bob

Week 4: May 30
• Further develop your argument
• Tighten your organization/structure
• Rewrite your proposal as a query
• Read empirical article
• Explore editor feedback
• Form new peer groups and share
• Skim Chaps. 5&6 of “12 Weeks”
• Week’s Goal: Write 3-5 pages

Week 5: June 6
• Check your argument
• Work on Intro and Conclusion
• Read article on pedagogy
• Interview with editors
• Skim Chaps. 6-8 of “12 Weeks”
• Week’s Goal: Write 3-5 pages

Week 6: June 13
• Begin editing of draft
• Draft cover letter to publisher
• Skim Chaps 10-11 of “12 Weeks”
• Write an abstract of your article
• Prepare works cited and footnotes
• Share full draft with peers and Bob

Week 7: June 20
• Revise final draft
• Explore funding opportunities
• Discuss responding to journal reviews
• Reflect on the class
• Have a picnic at Bob’s house
• Regain your life

Recommended Text and Materials


Photocopies of various scholarly articles and drafts of your work