

# EE 501, Winter 2021 Academic Writing

SLN 13635  
MW 5:30 pm – 7:20 pm  
Delivery via Zoom

How to Publish Your Paper

Prof. Alexander Mamishev

## OVERVIEW

This course is for graduate students in engineering and hard sciences, and for advanced undergrads with interest in research and graduate school, who want to learn to write award-winning scientific manuscripts. The course will cover conference papers, journal papers, dissertations, thesis proposals, grant proposals, complex reports, and books. Additional add-on topics will be explored briefly, including writing presentation slides, and creating biographical sketches.

This course is designed to give students an opportunity to improve their skills to become better technical communicators. Students of all writing abilities are welcome. Naturally, mastering the course content will take more time to less experienced students.

This course teaches students how to structure a technical paper to satisfy the formal requirements for a manuscript. Questions on writing style, prose, and strategy will be explored, including context, content, syntax, composition, and appearance.

In-class discussions and individual group exercises will encourage students to discuss some of the more difficult consequences of data dissemination, including the rejection and resubmission of manuscripts. Students will also receive valuable real-life advice on Ph.D. qualification exams, general exam strategies, multi-author writing, assigning credit, and dealing with writer's block.

The course is suitable for both native and non-native English-speaking students in engineering and sciences.

## FAQs

**How long is the conference paper?** The default conference paper length is four pages, but you can write a longer one if your target conference allows longer papers.

**How much of the class material will be completed in groups?** Assignments can be completed in the groups of one, two, or three students. There is no penalty or bonus for group work, each assignment can have a different group.

**Are the class assignments usually isolated writing exercises, or can they be aligned to our current research focus?** Most assignments can be aligned to your current research, and this is generally the best option. However, it is up to you. If you don't have your own topic, you will have an opportunity to develop it.

**What are your expectations for homework and what is the general workload of the class?** The workload is reasonable and can be regulated by completing assignments individually or in groups.

**Why is it held in the evening?** So that the course does not conflict with your other classes and activities. All lectures will be recorded.

**Is attendance required?** Since course participation can be asynchronous and online, it is possible to complete all assignments and get an A without attending a single lecture, however it would be easier to achieve that result by attending most lectures.

## GRADING

Homework Assignments	40%
Midterm Exam	20%
In-class Group Paper	10%
Course Participation	10%
Conference-grade Paper	20%

