

**WENDY BALDWIN**  
**Linguaverse Linguistic Solutions**



**SCIENTIFIC WRITING SEMINAR**  
**for Post-Graduate and Doctoral Students**  
**University of Vigo**  
**May 10, 2019**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Academics and researchers are under pressure to publish in English, not only to connect with an international community of scholars but also to advance their careers and compete for funding. This means that academics and researchers need to be able to communicate effectively in English, whether they are writing research articles for publication and conferences, grants for funding, etc. And given that the conventions of scientific writing and publishing in English can differ from the conventions of other languages and publishing cultures, authors who use English as an Additional Language (EAL) often face additional challenges, particularly at the beginning of their publishing/research career.

This seminar helps EAL authors who are in the early stages of their academic/research career by providing them with an overview of the publishing process and how to prepare manuscripts that meet the conventions expected for scientific writing in English and by international journals. This seminar also covers some fundamental principles of composition and language that will help EAL authors from Romance language backgrounds improve their ability to write in English with greater clarity and increased confidence. EAL authors, however, often require a degree of continuing writing and language support during the early stages of their careers, and so the seminar will also present some strategies for obtaining additional support.

## **OBJECTIVES**

To introduce participants to the IMRAD structure commonly used in scientific writing for publication, to address language-specific issues that EAL authors need to be aware of and work on when writing for publication in English, to introduce the basics of submitting a manuscript to international journals, and to point participants towards resources and strategies that they can use to help them continue developing their writing and language skills after completing the seminar.

## **CONTENT & STRUCTURE**

- Prior to the seminar, participants will be asked to spend an hour doing some work in preparation for the seminar.
- During the seminar itself, the morning sessions will (a) introduce the IMRAD structure used in scientific writing and each of its component parts and (b) give a brief overview of the publication process. The afternoon sessions will focus on language-specific issues related to scientific writing in English, including key rhetorical and linguistic principles for writing with clarity and a brief overview of strategies for seeking support beyond the seminar. All sessions

will be interactive, meaning that training content (delivered via slide presentations, which will be shared with participants for later reference) will be paired with practice activities to be completed in small groups.

- After the seminar, participants will be asked to spend two hours doing consolidation and evaluation activities.

## SCHEDULING/LANGUAGE

- **Date:** May 10, 2019 (Friday); 10:00-14:00 and 15:00-18:00 + 3 hrs. of pre- and post-seminar work
- **Venue:** Aula 5, Facultad de Biología-Edificio de Ciencias Experimentales (Bloque B, planta baja)
- **Language:** English

## WHO WILL BENEFIT?

The seminar is geared towards doctoral and post-graduate students who have little experience or training in the conventions of scientific writing or publishing in English. However, any participant who is interested in training and practice in scientific writing/publishing in English is welcome. The seminar and all training materials and practice activities will be in English. Participants are expected to be able to comfortably read and listen to academic English. It is also expected that they will be able to engage in some writing and speaking during the seminar and the pre- and post-seminar activities.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

**Carmen Sieiro:** [mcsieiro@uvigo.es](mailto:mcsieiro@uvigo.es)

**Wendy Baldwin:** [linguaverse@gmail.com](mailto:linguaverse@gmail.com)

## ABOUT THE FACILITATOR



**Wendy Baldwin** is an author's editor, Spanish-to-English translator and writing/language instructor and facilitator. She has been working with language and academic writing since 1993, primarily with EAL scholars and academics. She has taught academic and scientific writing across all levels of higher education, from undergraduates up through early-career researchers, in the US, Sweden and Spain and at institutions such as the University at Buffalo, the World Maritime University and Tecnun (the School of Engineering at the University of Navarra). She's also been helping academics and researchers publish in English as an author's editor and translator since 2005 across a range of disciplines and language backgrounds.

She is member of Asetrad, the Spanish association for translators and proofreaders, and Mediterranean Editors and Translators, an association based in Spain that provides training to editors and translators working into English. Wendy has post-graduate degrees in Linguistics from universities in the US and regularly participates in continuing professional development activities through MET and other associations for editors, translators and writers.