

Academic Writing Q&A Series:

2/“Do you have any tips, seminars, and so on for learning how to write in scientific English for articles and other scholarly publications?”

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- Over 20 years working at the intersection of academic libraries, scholars, and technology
- Over 10 years on a STEM campus
- International career (US native now working/living in Europe)
- Editorial assistance (with formal acknowledgment) for over 40 peer-reviewed STEM articles
- On the editorial board of two journals, one based in Canada and one in Austria
- Independent consultant working mostly with doctoral candidates, postdoctoral researchers, and professors
 - All answers in this video reflect my experience in scholarly publishing to date (in the future, some things might change)

2/“Do you have any tips, seminars, and so on for learning how to write in scientific English for articles and other scholarly publications?”

Answer:

There are many resources available to you for learning how to write academic English. The next few slides will introduce you to the options available to you

- University courses
- High-quality online classes (self-study)
- NTK self-paced resources & individual consultations

University courses: Dejvice campus

Your university may provide a scientific writing class. On the Prague-Dejvice campus, these classes often fill up quickly and have a waiting list, so reach out to the contacts below if you have questions about enrolling in the courses. If you are elsewhere in the Czech Republic, ask your mentor if your university has such a class. Local Prague-Dejvice classes and contacts:

CTU in Prague: Scientific writing and publishing in English

<https://moodle-ostatni.cvut.cz/course/view.php?id=202>

PhD for-credit course (also for IOCB doctoral candidates)

Contact: Jan Zeman, Faculty of Civil Engineering, jan.zeman@cvut.cz

UCT Prague: Effective scientific writing for PhD students

<https://kj.vscht.cz/subjects/21906>

PhD for-credit course

Contact: Craig Riddell, Department of Languages, craig.alfred.riddell@vscht.cz

University courses: Dejvice campus

If you feel your English is not quite ready for a writing course, university/faculty departments of languages typically offer more basic English instruction

CTU in Prague

- Ask your mentor where to go (not organized across the university but at the Faculty level)

UCT Prague

Department of Languages

<https://kj.vscht.cz/?jazyk=en>

English I & 2 for PhD students

Online classes: YouTube

While YouTube videos exist for certain aspects of writing, they can vary in quality, and they are often hidden advertisements for individuals selling writing services

- Nevertheless, if you are interested, you can scan sample videos using this query:
 - https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=scientific+writing+in+english

Please note that the time you spend scanning videos might be better spent enrolling in university courses, learning in a high-quality university open course, or using library offerings/studying on your own.

Online classes: Open university courses

Here are two higher-quality university courses (i.e., no charge open courses) you might investigate for self-paced learning

Coursera Stanford Writing in the Sciences (no charge but must register; runs at intervals)

MIT OPENCOURSEWARE Advanced Workshop In Writing For Science And Engineering (ELS) (open online course with linked readings/no instructor/self-paced learning)

NTK self-paced resources

The library has many high-quality books (print and electronic) on scientific writing

- Use the search tool to find them: <https://vufind.techlib.cz/>

Also: early career researcher support at NTK:

<https://www.techlib.cz/en/84414-early-career-researcher-support>

Sample tutorials/tools

AI tools for research: <https://www.techlib.cz/en/84766-searching-with-ai>

Academic writing and publishing resources:

<https://www.techlib.cz/en/84160-academic-reading-and-writing>

What we learned today

Where to go to learn more about writing academic English

- “Real world”
 - Dejvice campus writing courses, English courses
- Virtual resources
 - YouTube
 - University open courses
 - NTK learning resources
- Still confused? Don't hesitate to schedule an in-person or virtual consultation for more advice with a member of NTK's team:
<https://www.techlib.cz/en/83810-consultations>