

# Smith Communications OY

## Scientific Writing Skills Autumn 2026

Teacher: Medical writer Steve Smith

*Suggested participants: approx. 30 doctoral students/post-docs/research track students*

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**17 November 2026, at 9.00 – 16.15**

**Registration:** Opens in 1st September, closes 1st October 2026. Possibility to register on the waiting list.

### **Pre-course**

(1-2 h work from students required)

- SS to send the pre work out at the beginning of October
  - Prior to course day – participants return their task (deadline 19 October, 2026)
  - Returning the pre-task is a prerequisite for participation on the course day. Cancelled places are offered to those still on the waiting list.
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### **Morning, Kompassi hospital, Yrjö Alanen meeting room**

#### **First session**

**9.00 – 10.30**

- Brief intro: about the teacher, SS
- Intro: what are writing skills and why are they important?

*Break – 15 minutes*

#### **Second session**

**10.45 – 12.15**

- The writing process
- Overview of development stages; the importance of following this order of working

*Lunch break – 30 minutes*

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### **Afternoon, Kompassi hospital, Yrjö Alanen meeting room**

#### ***Workshop***

**12.45 – 13.15**

- ‘reverse outline’ task – groups of max 4 people
- Groups are assigned a section of sample paper
- Identify and mark prespecified essential components of sample paper
- Feedback to main group

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## **Third session**

**13.15 – 14.15**

- Titles and abstracts
- Types of titles – which is best for my paper?
- Writing impactful abstracts
- Submission prep; what happens after submission? Dealing with reviewer comments
- Summary of the writing process: Overall 'dos' and 'don'ts'

*Break: 15 minutes*

## **Workshop**

**14.30 – 15.45**

- Feedback and discussion about the pre-task together.

## **Closing session**

**15.45-16.15**

- What did we learn from the reviewing workshop?
- Summary of key pitfalls to avoid in writing a paper
- How does following the 'correct' process help avoid some of these pitfalls?
- This exercise underlines the value of not working entirely alone
- Summary; key take-aways

***End***

Feedback survey and attendance certificates sent to participants immediately after the course.