Sociology 995D: Professional Development Seminar
Publishing Research
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Spring 2021

Professor: Dr. Emily Kazyak  
Office Hours: Thursdays 11-12:30pm  
Email: ekazyak2@unl.edu  
Office Hours Zoom Room:  
Course Meeting Time: Fridays 2:30pm  
Course Zoom Meeting Room: https://unl.zoom.us/j/8524219285

Course Description
This class is designed to introduce you to academic writing and publishing. We will cover both the writing process as well as the publishing process, with a focus on academic, sociological, peer-reviewed journal articles. Throughout the semester, we will learn best practices for writing successfully in academia as well as for providing peer-review feedback. We will also learn about the process of choosing a journal, submitting a manuscript to a journal, and navigating the “revise and resubmit” and publication process. The course is designed for you to workshop and revise a drafted paper (master's thesis, course paper, paper from a research project) with the goal to be able to submit it to a journal at the end of the semester.

Course Format
This class will be a combination of discussion and peer-review workshop. Each week we will discuss a difference facet of the writing and publication process. Additionally, some weeks we will devote time to thinking about a particular section of a journal article (e.g. the literature review section or findings section). In this weeks, you will devote time to revising that section of your manuscript draft and we will devote class time to doing a peer-review workshop. All readings and written assignments for the week should be completed and posted to Canvas by 2:30pm on Fridays.

Course Assignments and Assessments
This is a pass/fail seminar with the expectation that in order to pass, you will do all of the assigned readings, complete all of the writing and peer-review assignments, and engage in class discussions.

Course Materials

Some of the forms in the book are also available here: https://wendybelcher.com/writing-advice/workbook-forms/

Services for Students with Disabilities
The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can discuss options
privately. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). If you are eligible for services and register with their office, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so they can be implemented in a timely manner. SSD contact information: 117 Louise Pound Hall; 402-472-3787.

**Academic Honesty**
Academic honesty is essential to the existence and integrity of an academic institution. The responsibility for maintaining that integrity is shared by all members of the academic community. The University's [Student Code of Conduct](#) addresses academic dishonesty. Students who commit acts of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary action and are granted due process and the right to appeal any decision.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**
Please note this schedule is tentative. I might make adjustments to the schedule to better meet the needs of the class. In accordance with the [Faculty Senate Resolution](#), we will have “Reading Days” this semester to allow you to devote time towards completing the course assignments and preparing your manuscript for submission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Topic: Introductions &amp; Preview of designing your plan for writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Topic: Designing Your Plan for Writing &amp; Advancing your Argument</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Read:**
- a. Week 1: Designing Your Plan for Writing
- b. Week 2: Advancing Your Argument
- c. (Skim) classmates papers

**Optional reading:** “Publishing in Academic Journals: Strategic Advice for Doctoral Students and Academic Mentors” by Bartowski, Deem, and Ellison

**Write and post by Feb 5th:**
- a. Write your weekly writing plan for writing each day
- b. Write a draft of your argument

**In-class on Feb 5th:**
- a. Discussion of writing plans
- b. Peer-review and workshop of argument drafts
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>Topic: Selecting a journal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 12</td>
<td><strong>Read:</strong>&lt;br&gt;a. Week 4: Selecting a Journal&lt;br&gt;<strong>Same chapter in 1st edition</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Write and post by Feb 12th:</strong>&lt;br&gt;a. Revise your argument and do the exercises in book focused on “reviewing and revising your article around your argument” (in 2nd edition, p. 83-88; in 1st edition, p. 94-96)&lt;br&gt;b. List your top three journal choices and briefly explain why these are good fits&lt;br&gt;c. Review 5 years of articles in 1 of the journals you chose: read all the titles, most of the abstracts, and at least four articles.&lt;br&gt;<strong>In-class on Feb 12th:</strong>&lt;br&gt;a. Discussion of journals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>Topic: Literature review, part 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 19</td>
<td><strong>Read:</strong>&lt;br&gt;a. Week 5: Refining Your Works Cited&lt;br&gt;<strong>If using 1st edition of book:</strong>&lt;br&gt;a. Week 5: Literature Review&lt;br&gt;<strong>Write and post by Feb 19th:</strong>&lt;br&gt;a. Review the literature review sections of five articles published in last few years in 1 of the journals you chose&lt;br&gt;b. Review examples from Kazyak’s literature reviews&lt;br&gt;c. Post your literature review section&lt;br&gt;<strong>In-class on Feb 19th:</strong>&lt;br&gt;a. Discussion of effective literature reviews&lt;br&gt;b. Peer-review and workshop of literature reviews</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>Topic: Literature review, part 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 26</td>
<td><strong>Read:</strong>&lt;br&gt;a. If applicable, continue to read articles for your literature review revisions&lt;br&gt;<strong>Write and post by February 26th:</strong>&lt;br&gt;a. Revised literature review section for your article&lt;br&gt;<strong>In-class on Feb 26th:</strong>&lt;br&gt;No class meeting: Reading Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Topic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><em>Strengthening your structure</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><em>Presenting your evidence, Part 1</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td><em>Presenting your evidence, Part 2</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-class on March 19th:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No class meeting: Reading Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Week 9  March 26

**Topic:** Opening and concluding your article

**Read:**
- a. Week 10: Opening and Concluding Your Article
  **If using 1st edition:**
  - a. Week 8: Opening and Concluding your Article

**Write and Post by March 26th**
- a. Do the tasks of revising your title, introduction, abstract, and conclusion

### In-class on March 26th:
- a. Discussion of effective introductions, conclusions
- b. Peer-review and workshop of introductions, conclusions

### Week 10  April 2

**Topic:** Editing your Sentences

**Read:**
- a. Week 11: Editing Your Sentences
  **If using 1st edition:**
  - b. Week 10: Editing Your Sentences

**Write and Post by April 2nd:**
- No assignment due

### In-class on April 2nd
- a. Discussion of editing

### Week 11  April 9

**Topic:** Finalizing Your Article for Submission

**Read:**
- a. Week 12: Sending Your Article!
  **If using 1st edition:**
  - a. Week 12: Sending your Article
  - b. Week 11: Wrapping up Your Article

**Write and Post by April 9th:**
- a. Article revised according to journal submission guidelines
| Week 12 | April 16 | **In-class on April 9th:**  
a. Discussion of the submission process |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Topic:</strong> <em>How to Peer-Review a Manuscript, Part 1</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Read:**  
a. “Strategies for Reviewing Manuscripts” by Brunsma, Prasad, and Zuckerman  
b. Reviewer guidelines for *Gender & Society* |
| Write and Post by April 16th:  
No assignment due |
| **In-class on April 16th:**  
a. Discussion of the peer-review process and how to write an effective review |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 13</th>
<th>April 23</th>
<th><strong>Topic:</strong> <em>How to Peer-Review a Manuscript, Part 2</em></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Read:**  
a. Assigned peer manuscripts |
| Write and Post by April 23rd:  
a. Reviews of assigned peer manuscripts |
| **In-class on April 23rd:**  
a. Feedback and debrief of the reviews |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 14</th>
<th>April 30</th>
<th><strong>Topic:</strong> <em>Responding to Journal Decisions</em></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Read:**  
a. Week X: Revising and Resubmitting Your Article  
b. Review examples from Kazyak’s responses to R&Rs  
**If using 1st edition:**  
a. Week X: Responding to Journal Decisions |
| **Write and Post:**  
No assignments due |
| **In-class on April 30th:**  
a. Discuss responding to journal decisions and process of revising and resubmitting your article  
b. Course evaluations and reflections |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FINALS WEEK</th>
<th>By (our class final exam time) 3pm on Tuesday May 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Write and Post:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a. Final manuscript</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b. Response to reviewers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>