

Simon Fraser University

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING SCIENCE

ENSC 803: *Writing for Publication*

Summer 2019

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1.0 Introduction

This 13 week course provides an opportunity for you to explore your writing processes in order to increase your efficiency and effectiveness (as well as your comfort and confidence) while writing. In addition, you will be provided an opportunity to simulate the processes involved in writing a journal article, presenting a conference paper, and designing a poster presentation. ENSC 803 will also provide you with some of the skills necessary to write the thesis or project required for graduate programs.

By the end of this course, you will have the skills and knowledge required to do the following:

- Change your personal writing processes as needed
- Analyze journal articles to recognize issues of audience, purpose, organization, and style
- Apply key principles of persuasion and informing to your writing
- Apply basic principles underlying effective oral presentations and poster presentations
- Identify and emulate both the explicit and tacit style, organization, and format requirements for journal articles and theses/projects
- Identify and follow the submission processes for theses/projects, journal articles, and conference presentations
- Blind review submitted articles and provide useful feedback to authors

2.0 Reading

Whitmore, S. and Stevenson, S. 2002. *Strategies for Engineering Communication*. John Wiley & Sons Inc. (Available at the SFU bookstore and the SFU Library.)

Selected readings will also be provided on the course website and in class.

3.0 Course Design

In this course, you will be expected to participate in 20 hours of interactive lecture and 10 hours of team and individual exercises throughout the semester. You can expect that you will additionally be required to undertake significant reading and writing outside of class.

ENSC 803 is based upon the premise that we best learn to deal with complex, ill-structured problems by *simulating* the circumstances in which we can expect to confront those problems. Writing and speaking in formal contexts can be considered among those sorts of problems. As well, these problems often challenge our confidence and abilities. Thus, in this course, you will be asked to simulate the processes of drafting and revising a journal article, reviewing a colleague's article, presenting a conference paper, and designing a poster presentation:

1. Analyze the style, organization, and format required for a journal article in your discipline
2. Draft an article emulating that required style, organization, and format
3. Blind review a peer's article by comparing it to the expected style, organization, and format
4. Revise and resubmit the article in light of the reviewer's comments
5. Develop and deliver a conference presentation
6. Design a conference poster presentation

4.0 Evaluation

ENSC 803 is graded on an A-F basis. Assignments are graded from A+ (96-100%) to F (0-50%). Your final grade is assessed as follows:

Due Date	Assignment	Weight
Completed in class	Course participation	15%
Mon, May 27	Extended abstract (submit on-line) ¹	05%
Mon, June 24	Draft journal article (submit 1 soft copy on-line and 1 hard copy in course drop box) ²	15%
Mon, July 15	Blind review of article (submit 2 hard copies in course drop box) ²	15%
Mons, July 08, 15, & 22	Conference presentations (in-class)	20%
Mon, Aug 05	Poster presentation (submit on-line)	15%
Mon, Aug 05	Revised journal article (submit on-line) ³	15%

¹ Please note that your draft journal article and blind review must be submitted on the dates they are due. Except under extenuating circumstances, failure to submit these assignments on the due dates may result in an "F" in this course.

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³ Revised articles may be published in a Conference Proceedings and posted on the course website.

Following are the grading equivalencies for ENSC 803:

Letter Grade	Definition	GPA	Percentage
A+	Excellent Performance	4.33	96-100
A		4.00	91-95
A-		3.67	86-90
B+	Good Performance	3.33	81-85
B		3.00	76-80
B-		2.67	71-75
C+	Satisfactory Performance	2.33	66-70
C		2.00	61-65
C-	Marginal Performance	1.67	56-60
D	Unsatisfactory Performance	1.00	51-55
F		0.00	00-50

5.0 Academic Integrity Policy

As with all courses at SFU, you are expected to follow proper citation and referencing practices in ENSC 803 (see the *SFU Code of Academic Integrity* - <http://www.sfu.ca/policies/gazette/student/s10-01.html>). To meet University standards for academic integrity, you must cite and reference sources for any material that you have taken from journals, books, and websites in your journal articles and your conference presentations.

As well, you are expected to acknowledge (via a footnote) when a submitted paper has been generated as part of a group effort.

Failure to meet SFU standards may result in failure in an assignment and/or the course.