# Scientific Writing in Evolution & Ecology: Manuscripts (EEOB 6620) & Proposals (EEOB 6630) Autumn Semester 2020

## **Course Numbers:**

<u>EEOB 6620 (Manuscript Writing)</u>. Session 1 (Aug. 25 – Oct. 12, 2020): call # 26308 (1.5 credits) <u>EEOB 6630 (Proposal Writing)</u>. Session 2 (Oct. 19 – Dec. 9, 2020): call # 26310 (1.5 credits)

## **Course Time & Location:**

Mondays, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, 104 Aronoff Laboratory (or online, if needed because of COVID-19)

#### Instructor:

Dr. Stuart Ludsin, Professor of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology (<u>http://www.ludsinlab.com/</u>)

## **Course Overview:**

These graduate-level courses will focus on improving the scientific writing ability of students. EEOB 6620 will emphasize writing scientific manuscripts, with EEOB 6630 centering on writing research proposals. During both courses, students will learn how to approach the writing process, practice writing, and learn to analyze their own writing and that of others.

These courses will be intensive, as students will be expected to write, peer-review writing, and participate in small and large-group discussions each week. Students will need to have a writing goal for both courses, and ideally can make progress on a manuscript (EEOB 6620) or a research proposal (EEOB 6630).

<u>EEOB 6620 (Manuscript Writing)</u>. This course will focus on the nuts and bolts of effective manuscript writing (e.g., style, structure/organization, paragraph/sentence development, syntax/word choice), with the aim of teaching how to develop coherent, interesting scientific papers that will get cited. Joshua Schimel's *Writing Science: How to Write Papers That Get Cited and Proposals That Get Funded* will be our primary text.

EEOB 6630 (Proposal Writing). This coruse will focus explicitly on developing an effective proposal. This course will provide a cookbook approach to writing the main components of a



research proposal, using Stephen Russell's and David Morrison's *The Grant Application Writer's Workbook* (<u>http://www.grantcentral.com/workbooks/national-science-foundation/</u>) as a guide. The course will be geared to developing full NSF-style proposals; however, the lessons learned would benefit efforts to write any kind of proposal (e.g., NSF GRF, candidacy exam, thesis, small grant application).

## Questions:

Feel free to contact Stuart Ludsin (<u>ludsin.1@osu.edu</u>), if you have any questions or concerns.