Scientific Seminar – Methods, Tools and Practice for Writing Scientific Papers	
Lecture hours:	**Together: 100 hours** **Contact hours: 40 hours** with the teacher: usually 8 meetings for 5 hours (lectures and workshops) including seminar presentations and paper drafts review **Self study** (study literature, writing paper, reviews, project preparation, paper submission) hours: **60 hours** student's self-study and development
Study period: (summer/winter)	Summer and winter semester
Number of credits:	**4 ECTS**
Assessment methods:	- 70% of attendance at the seminar - active participation in seminar sessions and peer discussions - towards the end of the course, you will be required to submit a complete draft of a scientific paper and deliver a final presentation of your research work (choosen topic)
Language of instruction:	English
Prerequisites:	Students need to speak English well enough to participate in classes conducted in English. (B1+ or higher). Basic knowledge of research methodology and academic writing conventions is recommended.
Course content:	**Scientific Seminar – Methods, Tools and Practice for Writing Scientific Papers** is a seminar combining theory-based guidance with hands-on writing practice, peer review workshops, and individual paper development. Participants learn the complete lifecycle of a scientific publication – from identifying a research gap and selecting appropriate methods to submitting a polished manuscript to a peer-reviewed journal. **Module 1. Foundations of Scientific Research** • Types of research: quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods • Research ethics and academic integrity • Identifying research gaps and formulating research questions • Hypothesis development and research design **Module 2. Literature Review and Reference Management** • Systematic and narrative literature reviews • Searching academic databases (Scopus, Web of Science, Google Scholar) • Critical reading and evaluation of scientific sources • Reference management tools: Zotero, Mendeley, EndNote • Avoiding plagiarism; proper paraphrasing and citation

	Module 3. Research Methodology and Methods • Quantitative methods: surveys, experiments, statistical analysis • Qualitative methods: interviews, case studies, content analysis • Mixed methods design • Data collection instruments and measurement validity **Module 4. Structure and Style of a Scientific Paper** • IMRaD structure (Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion) • Writing an effective abstract • Introduction: context, gap, and objectives • Methods section: reproducibility and transparency • Results, Discussion, and Conclusions • Academic writing style, precision, and conciseness **Module 5. Submission and Publication Process** • Choosing the right journal: scope, impact factor, quartile ranking • Open access vs. traditional publishing • Manuscript formatting and journal guidelines • The peer review process: roles and expectations • Responding to reviewers' comments • Research visibility: ORCID, ResearchGate, institutional repositories **Module 6. Digital Tools for Academic Writing** • AI-assisted writing tools and their ethical use (e.g., Grammarly, ChatGPT, Perplexity, napkin.ai - TESTING) • Reference managers and citation styles (APA, Chicago, Vancouver) • Plagiarism detection tools (iThenticate, Turnitin) • Data visualisation tools for scientific figures **Module 7. Seminar Paper Project** • Students during the semester independently develop a scientific paper, including: • formulation of a research question and hypothesis • literature review and theoretical framework • methodology chapter • data presentation and analysis • discussion and conclusions • final presentation and peer feedback session
Learning outcomes:	By the end of the **Scientific Seminar – Methods, Tools and Practice for Writing Scientific Papers** course students will have: • developed a thorough understanding of scientific research principles and publication standards; • mastered the complete process of writing, structuring, and submitting a scientific paper; • acquired skills in conducting systematic literature reviews and critically evaluating sources; • learned to apply appropriate quantitative and/or qualitative research methods;

	• gained practical experience with reference management and citation formatting; • understood the journal submission and peer review process; • developed the ability to use digital tools and AI-assisted platforms ethically in academic writing; • improved academic writing style, argumentation, and scientific language; • enhanced critical thinking, peer review, and constructive feedback skills; • completed an original scientific paper draft ready for journal submission. During the seminar, students will also develop professional scientific communication competencies applicable in international academic and research environments.
Name of lecturer:	Dr Ewelina Idziak Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=pl&as_sdt=0%2C5&q=Ewelina+Idziak&oq= Dr Ewelina Idziak has an experience in publishing for the best Publishing Houses: Routledge (Taylor & Francis), Springer, Emerald, MDPI and others.
Contact (email address):	ewelina.idziak@ukw.edu.pl
Literature:	**I. Materials delivered by Lecturer (own papers, path of submission, reviews etc.).** **II. 🖴 Open Access Books** 1. Lövei, G. L. *Writing and Publishing Scientific Papers: A Primer for the Non-English Speaker* (2021). Open Book Publishers. 📎 https://books.openbookpublishers.com/10.11647/obp.0235openbookpublishers *(Fully free PDF, HTML, EPUB — peer-reviewed, CC licence)* 2. Mack, C. A. *How to Write a Good Scientific Paper* (2018). SPIE Press. 📎 https://www.spiedigitallibrary.org/ebooks/PM/How-to-Write-a-Good-Scientific-Paper/eISBN-9781510619142/10.1117/3.2317707spiedigitallibrary *(Free PDF officially released by SPIE — covers structure, style, titles, abstracts, peer review)*lithoguru 3. Dunn, P. K. *Scientific Research and Methodology: An Introduction to Quantitative Research in Science and Health* (2021). Bookdown / CC BY-NC-SA. 📎 https://bookdown.org/pkaldunn/SRM-Textbook/bookdown *(Full open textbook on research design, hypothesis testing, data analysis)*

	4. Bakni, M. *The Scientific Method: A Practical Guide* (2025). HAL Open Science. 📎 https://hal.science/hal-04952875v2hal *(Practical guide for early-career researchers, freely downloadable PDF)* **lll 🌐 Open Access Platforms & Websites** 5. Elsevier Researcher Academy — Free e-learning platform covering manuscript preparation, writing for research, peer review, and publishing. 📎 https://researcheracademy.elsevier.com/writing-researchresearcheracademy.elsevier *(Free registration required; 26+ modules with certificates)* 6. RMIT Open Press — Research and Writing Skills for Academic and Graduate Researchers (2022). CC BY-NC. 📎 https://rmit.pressbooks.pub/researchwritingmodules/rmit.pressbooks *(Covers literature searching, systematic reviews, research proposals, publishing — for PhD and academic researchers)* 7. LibreTexts — Research Methods for the Social and Behavioral Sciences 📎 https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Psychology/Research_Methods_and_Statisticssocialsci.libretexts *(Large OER collection of research methods textbooks, CC-licensed)* 8. BCC Campus Pressbooks — Practicing and Presenting Social Research (Robinson & Wilson, 2022). CC BY-NC. 📎 https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/undergradresearch/pressbooks.bccampus *(Step-by-step guide from research question to final write-up)* 9. Helen Kara's Open Access Research Methods Resources — curated list of free tools, databases, and communities including SAGE Methodspace. 📎 https://helenkara.com/2021/02/04/open-access-research-methods-resources/helenkara 10. University of Houston — Scholarly Publishing Guide (free publisher tutorials from Elsevier, Wiley, Springer, ACS, IEEE) 📎 https://guides.lib.uh.edu/scholarly_publishing/advice_from_publisher_and_practitioners