

ACADEMIC WRITING FOR INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATION
學術書寫與出版工作坊
February 23-26, 2021

*A Workshop Organized by
The Center for Asia-Pacific Area Studies, RCHSS, Academia Sinica
Co-sponsored by
Academia Sinica, Taipei
and the Social Science Research Council, New York*

The Center for Asia-Pacific Area Studies, RCHSS, Academia Sinica, is pleased to announce a call for papers for an academic writing workshop for early-career scholars in Taiwan to be held on February 23-26, 2021. This workshop, the second in a series co-sponsored by the Academia Sinica and the Social Science Research Council, New York, focuses on promoting the publication of research in international refereed journals.

The workshop will deal with strategies and methods to overcome obstacles Asian scholars face when submitting English-language materials to highly ranked publications. The four days of training will include lectures, small group discussions, individual mentoring sessions and practical exercises. Topics covered include current trends in international scholarly communication, practical approaches to writing for international audiences, what editors look for in assessing submissions, and the process of submitting and revising manuscripts. The goal is to help authors understand and meet the expectations of editors of international publications, and of the referees who evaluate submissions.

Eligibility

This workshop is designed for advanced graduate students (ABD), junior faculty members (post-doctoral fellows and assistant professors), and researchers (assistant research fellows) based in Taiwan working in anthropology, area studies, ecology, heritage, history, geography, international relations, political science, or sociology. Scholars in other social science or humanities disciplines should consult the Workshop Secretary about their eligibility to participate.

Application

Applications will go through a two-stage screening process. Those interested in participating in the workshop are invited to submit an initial application form introducing themselves and their research. The form is attached to this announcement. The workshop contact person is:

Ms. Ginger Chiang (江咨靜), Workshop Secretary
The Center for Asia-Pacific Area Studies, RCHSS, Academia Sinica
E-mail: gingertw@gate.sinica.edu.tw

The submission deadline is August 9, 2020 and successful applicants will receive an invitation to submit a draft article of 4,000 to 6,000 words. Workshop participants will be selected based on the potential of this essay to be developed into an article suitable for publication. The deadline for submitting final manuscripts will be November 29, 2020, and the results will be announced by December 15.

Structure of the Workshop

The workshop will take place over four full days, and participants are expected to attend all sessions.

Topics discussed during the workshop include:

- What editors look for when reviewing submissions;
- The evaluation process and responding to referees' reports;
- The underlying dynamics of argumentation in a research article;
- Developing a clear and effective presentation;
- Linguistic conventions for conveying ideas accurately, clearly and appropriately;
- Strategies for planning and revising a manuscript.

Lectures and small group sessions address common weaknesses in academic writing:

- The absence of a clearly developed research question;
- The lack of an argument;
- Abstracts that have too much or too little information;
- Failure to present or support an argument;
- Failure to identify a target audience;
- Failure to explain the significance of the research;
- Inclusion of irrelevant material or too much data;
- Overstating or understating the significance of the research findings.

Program Summary

Lectures

- What Editors Look For, and Mistakes Writers Make
- Revision Strategies for Academic Manuscripts
- Salient Features and Conventions of Academic English
- Issues and Trends in Academic Publishing

Small Group Sessions

Each participant will take part in small groups discussions with 3-4 participants. During these sessions, participants will explain their research questions, their findings and their methodology to others in the group, who will respond with questions and suggestions.

Individual Sessions

Participants will meet individually with one of the mentors to discuss strengths and weaknesses of their papers.

Exercises and Interactive Sessions

Participants will take part in interactive sessions that reinforce material presented in the earlier sessions.

Support for Participants

Participant lodging (if necessary) and lunches for the duration of the workshop will be covered by the Center for Asia-Pacific Area Studies.

Consideration of the COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has hit the world badly and caused suspension of travel and other activities. We sincerely hope the world will be able to find good solutions to control it. In case the situation does not allow the workshop to take place next February, we will announce it beforehand and possibly postpone the workshop until July 20-23, 2021.

The Mentors

Dr Paul H Kratoska (*Lead Mentor*) is a former Director of NUS Press at the National University of Singapore. He served on the Board of Directors of the US Association for Asian Studies from 2003-2005 and is a past editor of the *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* and current editor of *The Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*. He taught at the Ateneo de Manila (1975-77), Universiti Sains Malaysia (1977-87) and the National University of Singapore (1987-2005). His research focuses on Southeast Asia and he has published books and articles on the Japanese Occupation, the history of rice cultivation, ethnic minorities, school textbooks, and academic publishing. He was a contributor to the *Cambridge History of South-East Asia*, the *Cambridge History of World War II*, and the *Routledge Handbook of Southeast Asian History*, and serves on the boards of the *International Journal of Asian Studies* (University of Tokyo), *Southeast Asian Studies* (CSEAS, Kyoto University), *TRaNS: Trans-Regional and -National Studies of Southeast Asia* (Sogang University), and *The Journal of History* (Philippine Historical Society).

Susan Lopez Nerney is a former lecturer with the Centre for English Language Communication at the National University of Singapore, where she taught courses on writing for academic purposes and research, technical/workplace communication, English as a second language, and English grammar. She was previously an editor with the publishing unit of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore and has done freelance book editing. She co-authored *Writing in Process: Strategies for Organization and Development* (Pearson Prentice Hall) and has published articles on teaching academic writing. She has served as a mentor in writing workshops in Japan, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Singapore.

Paul Nerney is a former senior lecturer with the Centre for English Language Communication at the National University of Singapore, where he developed and taught courses on English, communication skills and academic writing. He also developed and coordinated Writing and Critical Thinking modules for the University Scholars Programme's and writing modules (Ideas and Exposition 1 and 2) for the NUS University Town Colleges. His publications include articles on writing as a process, and he has served as a mentor in writing workshops in Japan, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Indonesia and Singapore.

Linda Grove Linda Grove is Consulting Director of the Social Science Research Council's Tokyo office, and program director for the SSRC's Global Scholars Initiative. She formerly taught Chinese social and economic history at Sophia University in Tokyo, where she served as dean and as vice president with responsibility for international programs and research management. Her publications include books and articles on Chinese rural industrialization and social change, East Asian trade history, and Chinese women's history, as well as translations of Japanese and Chinese scholarship on Chinese history.