

Physics 194: Syllabus

Fall 2022: <https://canvas.eee.uci.edu/courses/47295>

About this Course: Physics 194 is a 2-unit seminar for Physics majors at UCI. The course focuses on effective written communication for careers in science and technology, including physics and physics research. The course introduces the disciplinary standards for scientific writing and the needs and expectations of different audiences. The course prepares students for upper-division laboratory courses (PHYS 121W and PHYS 106W) and the senior research thesis (PHYS 196). Students complete UCI's Upper Division Writing requirement by completing this course in combination with PHYS 121W or 106W.

How this Course Works: In this course, students attend 1 hour of lecture followed by 1 hour of live, in-class discussion each week. During class time, students read and analyze example writing samples and share their own writing for peer feedback. After class, students follow these examples and feedback to complete their writing assignments, with additional help from UCI's Writing Center. Credit is earned week-by-week by sharing and participating in peer review as we work through different types of writing.

Student Learning Objectives:

- Students practice writing and evaluating applications for graduate study, graduate fellowships, or technical career positions
- Students practice creating and peer reviewing proposals for research projects
- Students practice professional standards for reporting research results

Instructor Contact Information

Instructors: Professor P. Collins and L. Tucker E-mail: collinsp@uci.edu and tucker@uci.edu.

Class Meetings:

Lecture: Wednesday 11:00 - 11:50 pm in SSL 270

Discussion Section A1: Friday 10:00 - 10:50 pm in AIRB 1030

Discussion Section A2: Friday 11:00 - 11:50 pm in AIRB 1030

Discussion Section A3: Friday 1:00 - 1:50 pm in SE 101 Lecture

Course Textbook: *From Research to Manuscript, 2nd Edition*, by Michael Jay Katz.
<http://link.springer.com/book/10.1007%2F978-1-4020-9467-5>

Course Grading:

Four writing assignments, including class participation and peer review, make up 70% of your grade, with the following breakdown:

- Resume (10%)
- Personal Statement (10%)
- Research Proposal (20%)
- Research Paper (30%)

The remainder of your grade comes from

- Eight weekly *Reading Quizzes* on the assigned reading (15%)
- Three *One-on-One Writing Consultations* with embedded Learning Assistants (15%)

About half of the credit for every writing assignment is based on participation. Attend class with your draft work and participate in peer review to earn this credit. The other half of your score is earned by demonstrating an understanding of the rules and expectations for each type of writing. This credit requires earning a Satisfactory or Outstanding rating on every element of that assignment's grading rubric.

Absences and Late Work

Students who miss any class session should email [Prof. Collins](#) in advance and meet all deadlines for submitting work. Participation credit will be given if an opportunity arises for another student to comment on your draft during class.

Once it has been graded, Writing Assignments marked *Needs Revision* may be revised and resubmitted for higher scores. Late work will also be accepted for 50% credit. Revisions and late work will only earn credit for 2 weeks past any assignment's original deadline. No additional submissions will be graded after 2 weeks or after December 9, 2022.

Writing and Plagiarism

Science writing is often collaborative, and this course is designed around peer feedback and revision. You are *encouraged* to learn by working together, and you will use outside sources to learn about science topics.

Nevertheless, any work turned in for a grade must be your own effort and not someone else's. Submitting work under your name that has been copied from another source is never acceptable. Plagiarism on any assignment will be treated as [academic misconduct](#) and result in automatically failing the entire course. The course will strictly enforce [UCI's policies on academic integrity](#).