



# Getting Published & Mastering Peer Review – Online Workshop

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## Graduate School of Geosciences: 28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Learning to write and respond to reviewers' comments are vital skills for early-career researchers to master if they wish to become established scientists. However, these skills are often neglected, forcing researchers to learn them by trial and error.

By learning to address reviewers' comments, young researchers not only increase their chances of getting published but also learn to think critically about their own research. Equally, by becoming better reviewers, researchers can raise their profiles with journal editors and enhance their academic reputation.

### *Description*

This workshop guides you through the peer review process using a practical approach that explores the roles of the author, the reviewer and the editor. Following the workshop, as an author you will be able to engage the interest of the journal editor with a cover letter. You will also be skilled in responding comprehensively and courteously to reviewers' comments. As a future reviewer, you will know how to critically evaluate a research article and to phrase criticism in a constructive review that benefits the scientific process.

### *Online Training with In-person Module*

Since 2015 this unique training workshop has been extremely well-received by hundreds of participants either attending in-house or, since 2020, attending online.

What can you expect from this online workshop?

#### **1. Live and recorded content**

The workshop will consist of both synchronous live content and asynchronous recorded content (with the split being roughly 50% live and 50% pre-recorded). The live content will give everyone a chance to actively engage in the conversation by sharing your thoughts and opinions. The most important workshop exercises will also be held during live discussions. The recorded content gives you a lot of flexibility and can be viewed whenever suits you best.

Note that the live sessions largely build on the topics introduced in the video material. Therefore, you will benefit more from the training by watching the videos in the three weeks before the live workshop sessions.

## **2. Workshop schedule**

The live sessions will be offered over the course of 2 days in 6 online classes totalling 8 hours (Zoom sessions of 1-1.5 hours). Most recorded content will be available to view 3 weeks in advance of the live workshop sessions. You will view some recorded content in the time between online classes.

## **3. Reference materials**

All workshop participants will receive an electronic workshop manual. This manual serves as a permanent reference and is a copy of the slides presented in the videos and live sessions. You will also receive an electronic exercise book.

## **4. In-person Module: Group Discussion**

Reviewer anonymity is a defining feature of many journals' implementation of peer review. But what about *author* anonymity? And what are the advantages and disadvantages of revealing (or concealing) reviewers' and authors' identities when evaluating science on its merits?

These questions will be the focus of an in-class group discussion at the GSGS, Köln at the end of the first day of the workshop. **In-class group will meet on Thursday, 28/9/23 at 4.30 PM at Seminarraum Mineralogie (310/EG/0.05), Institute for Geology and Mineralogy, Zülpicher Straße 49 b (black building).** Attendance (in-person) is optional but highly recommended.

### **Further Information**

Any questions on the workshop content and scheduling? You are very welcome to email Brian at: [brian.cusack@science-craft.com](mailto:brian.cusack@science-craft.com)

I look forward to meeting you online for an interesting discussion on the important topic of Getting Published and Peer Review!

Dr. Brian Cusack