

General overview of the course in Scientific English for PhD students in Oncology (30 hours)

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This is a general overview of course:

- 1) WRITING:
 - a. Topic sentence and how to structure paragraphs. Structures for cause and effect.
 - b. Language and set expressions to be used to describe visual information, i.e. graphs and trends
 - c. The importance of register (formal and informal) and paraphrasing
 - d. Difference when expressing facts and opinions
 - e. Analysis of how to write a description of processes. The use of the passive voice.
 - f. Quotations and references. How to avoid plagiarism.
 - g. Noun + noun structures
 - h. General-to-specific and specific-to-general texts
- 2) How to write research articles
 - a. Title
 - b. Abstract (including structured and unstructured abstracts)
 - c. Introduction (citations and declarations of intent)
 - d. Materials and methods
 - e. Results. Data commentary.
 - f. Conclusions
- 3) Cover letters and emails
- 4) Introduction to protocol writing in clinical research
- 5) READING/LISTENING:
 - a. Participants are asked to send the teacher any article they would like to discuss in class. Participants will read several research articles proposed by them or by the teacher.
 - b. Summaries and discussion of the content of the articles proposed.
 - c. Participants will watch short videoclips taken from conferences and will have to summarise what is said. The videoclips will feature speakers speaking with different accents.
 - d. Focus on stress and intonation
- 6) SPEAKING: seminars and conferences:
 - a. Small talk: how to interact with other participants during the breaks and network with them. Possible topics to be discussed in a more informal context will also be covered.
 - b. How to get ready for a discussion and summarise the main information from the discussion