

Soft Skills | Überfachliche akademische Kompetenzen

Professional Writing for the Humanities and Social Sciences

Dr. Kali Tal (Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine, University of Bern)

Date: November 15 and 22, 2013, 10am to 4:45pm

Rooms: Nov. 15: A027, UniS, Schanzeneckstrasse 1, Bern / Nov. 22: 208, Hauptgebäude, Hochschulstrasse 4 (Nov. 22), Bern

ECTS: 1

This course is designed to assist academics who want to publish their articles in scholarly journals. It takes students through the writing process, from ideas and sketches to the finished work and the submission letter. We will also cover requests for revisions, and resubmission to other journals after a paper is rejected. The course presumes proficiency in English to level C1+, and is aimed at those who are about to write, or are at work on a paper (the research has been done). It is not suitable for students who have not yet chosen a topic of research.

The format alternates between short lectures and discussions, and includes several exercises. The participants should bring their laptops since some exercises require access to a word processing program.

The course will cover the following topics:

1. Before your research is finished:
2. The importance of "the message"
3. Choosing your journal
4. Brainstorming and mindmapping
5. Assembling your argument
6. Writing the body
7. Writing the introduction
8. The editing process
9. The cover letter
10. The response
11. The brain is a percolator

Enrollment via ILIAS; external participants contact christian.wymann@iash.unibe.ch

Kali Tal is Senior Editor at the Institute for Social and Preventive Medicine at the University of Bern, where she edits scientific and medical papers. As a freelancer, she edits academic articles and books in the social sciences and humanities, as well as the sciences, and has worked in fields ranging from legal studies, to political science, sociology, anthropology, ethnic studies and literature. As a scholar, she has published in the field of Trauma Studies (*Worlds of Hurt: Reading the Literatures of Trauma*, 1995, Cambridge University Press).

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