Introduction
With a Master’s degree in Electrical Engineering Rowan Atkinson (Mr. Bean) has largely communicated without words; but most of us do rely on language to communicate in our professions.

The motivation for this sequence of 4 sessions is to enable advanced graduate students and post-doctoral researchers in Electrical Engineering, through discussion, taught sessions and practice, to become more confident and skilled writers and speakers in their academic discipline.

Content of Sessions
Session 1: Recognizing and Using Features of Academic Writing
BRING – a research article in your area and an abstract you have written
Content of Session: What is Academic Style?
• Jointly edit in pairs a written text to make it “more academic”
• Work out verb tense usage in different parts of a research article

Session 2: Writing for an Audience (not just for your advisor)
Writing article introductions and reviewing previous research, showing why your work is important, positioning yourself as a member of the club
BRING – an introduction and/or a literature review to a paper you have written
Content of Session: Writing article introductions, Signalling logical relations, How to ace small talk
a) Writing Article Introductions (and summarizing previous research)
b) Speaking to Your Reader in Your Writing

c) How to do small talk in research contexts. Practicing speaking with an important person in your field while eating, holding a wine glass and a plate of hors d’oeuvres.

Session 3: The Fundamentals: Research Pitches
Content of Session: Explaining your work to researchers and ‘ordinary’ people
BRING – a research pitch
• Work on your pitch with your group members
• Dealing with Question Time

Session 4: Putting it All Together
The content of this final session is dependent on participants’ interests.
BRING – a discussion section, results section or conclusion that you have written

Participant Evaluations of the Workshop
Approach
“Having a way to analyze my writing will be very helpful.”
“The class gave me a clearer idea about how to systematically organize my thoughts when I write a research paper.”

Content and Pacing
“I think the topics covered were amongst those I consider most challenging and important.”
“The sessions delivered more than I had hoped for.”
“The sessions make full use of the time assigned to them.”
“Very good and helpful content.”
“This was an excellent class. I really enjoyed the content and your presentation.”

Acknowledgements
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Apply at WIMS2.org