

Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka

**Curriculum
2025/2026**

For course

Academic Writing

Study program:	Medical Studies in English (R) (elective) University integrated undergraduate and graduate study
Department:	Department of Humanities and Social Sciences in Medicine
Course coordinator:	izv. prof. dr. sc. Pupovac Vanja, prof.
Year of study:	1
ECTS:	1.5
Incentive ECTS:	0 (0.00%)
Foreign language:	Possibility of teaching in a foreign language

Course information:

The aim of the course is to acquaint students with the basic features of academic reading and writing and thereby make it easier for them to plan and produce academic work (essay, report, seminar paper, etc.) and enable communication in the academic community.

After completing the course, students will be able to:

- recognize and understand the stages in the writing process
- distinguish questions for description, analysis, and evaluation when reading a text critically
- form a text in which one's own position is presented
- argue one's position (support with explanations and evidence)
- recognize and form effective paragraphs and sentences
- use a citation style specific to the medical sciences
- constructively criticize other people's work

List of assigned reading:

1. Strunk W, White E. B. The Elements of Style. Longman: Boston: Allyn and Bacon; 2009. (freely available at URL: <http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/37134>)
2. Zinsser W. On Writing Well: The Classic Guide to Writing Nonfiction. New York, NY: Harper Perennial; 2006.
3. Mimi Zeiger. Essentials to Writing Biomedical Research Papers. McGraw Hill Professional; 1999.

List of optional reading:

1. <https://www.aacc.org/science-and-research/clinical-chemistry/clinical-chemistry%C2%A0guide-to-scientific-writing>
2. <https://www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk/>

Curriculum:

Seminars list (with titles and explanation):

What is academic writing?

understand basics of academic communication

Structure of the academic paper

identify basic structural elements of the academic paper

Logical organization of content

understand logical organization of ideas in academic text

Structure of the paragraph

identify basic elements of the paragraph

Academic style

identify basic elements of academic style

Student obligations:

Students are required to create a seminar paper (critical presentation) and critically comment on at least 3 seminar papers of other students. The critical review will be written in several stages, which are described in more detail in the table below.

Exam (exam taking, description of the written/oral/practical part of the exam, point distribution, grading criteria):

Regular and active participation in classes.

Other notes (related to the course) important for students:

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COURSE HOURS 2025/2026

Academic Writing

Seminars (Place and time or group)
19.11.2025
What is academic writing?: • ONLINE (16:00 - 19:45) [420] ◦ AW
izv. prof. dr. sc. Pupovac Vanja, prof. [420]
20.11.2025
Structure of the academic paper: • ONLINE (16:00 - 19:45) [420] ◦ AW
izv. prof. dr. sc. Pupovac Vanja, prof. [420]
21.11.2025
Logical organization of content: • ONLINE (16:00 - 19:45) [420] ◦ AW
izv. prof. dr. sc. Pupovac Vanja, prof. [420]
24.11.2025
Structure of the paragraph: • ONLINE (16:00 - 19:45) [420] ◦ AW
izv. prof. dr. sc. Pupovac Vanja, prof. [420]
10.12.2025
Academic style: • ONLINE (16:00 - 19:45) [420] ◦ AW
izv. prof. dr. sc. Pupovac Vanja, prof. [420]

List of lectures, seminars and practicals:

SEMINARS (TOPIC)	Number of hours	Location
What is academic writing?	5	ONLINE
Structure of the academic paper	5	ONLINE
Logical organization of content	5	ONLINE
Structure of the paragraph	5	ONLINE
Academic style	5	ONLINE

EXAM DATES (final exam):
