



EFFECTIVE WRITING FOR HEALTH CARE



Formulate arguments, present data, convey successful messages

Fast Facts

- A one-year blended certificate program designed to help clinicians, researchers and allied health professionals achieve their writing career goals.
- Choose one of two specialized writing tracks: Writing for Medical and Scientific Journals and Writing for the Public
- Attend three workshops with like-minded writing scholars from across the globe.
- Learn from expert writing educators, editors and writers from the New England Journal of Medicine, the Harvard College Writing Program and other prominent publications.

Workshop Formats

Two Live Virtual & One In-Person,
Boston, MA

Priority Enrollment Deposit Deadline

March 13, 2024

Application Deadline

April 24, 2024

Apply Today

hms.harvard.edu/writing

From Program Director



How well we formulate arguments, present data and convey messages has an enormous impact on our ability to achieve our professional goals. Our communications skills affect the way grant proposals are received and reviewed, how peers consider our work and ideas and whether—and how—the public embraces our viewpoints and opinions.

Effective Writing for Health Care is for professionals seeking to accelerate and elevate communications skills with minimal time away from practice or research activities.

Featuring faculty editors and contributors from the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the Harvard College Writing Program, leading media outlets and grant organizations, this program offers two specialized tracks:

- Writing for Medical and Scientific Journals: Increase the likelihood of a submission being accepted to a medical or scientific journal
- Writing for the Public: Achieve success in communicating ideas and opinions via newspapers, magazines and social media

Throughout the program you will:

- Attend three four-day workshops
- Participate in 60 webinars, on-demand sessions and targeted hands-on writing exercises
- Work in small groups and with writing coaches, editors and faculty members to advance specific writing goals
- Produce a personal capstone project—a submission ready project with support from a faculty member

We created this professional development program to help you convey your ideas with greater clarity, impact and reader engagement. We hope you can join us.

Jamie Robertson, PhD, MPH

Program Director
Director of Innovation in Surgical Education, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Assistant Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School

“EFFECTIVE WRITING FOR HEALTH CARE IS INSTRUMENTAL IN PREPARING SCHOLARS TO WRITE ON MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE TOPICS.

I recently had a paper accepted in a journal, where I used much of what I learned during the program. Additionally, my paper was highlighted by journal editors to be published for a lay audience. In the same week we covered the curriculum on press releases, I wrote a press release announcing my upcoming paper. I would recommend this program to anyone looking to improve their writing skills or achieve writing-related career goals.”

Hermano Alexandre Lima Rocha, PhD

Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Department of Global Health & Population
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health



Program Overview

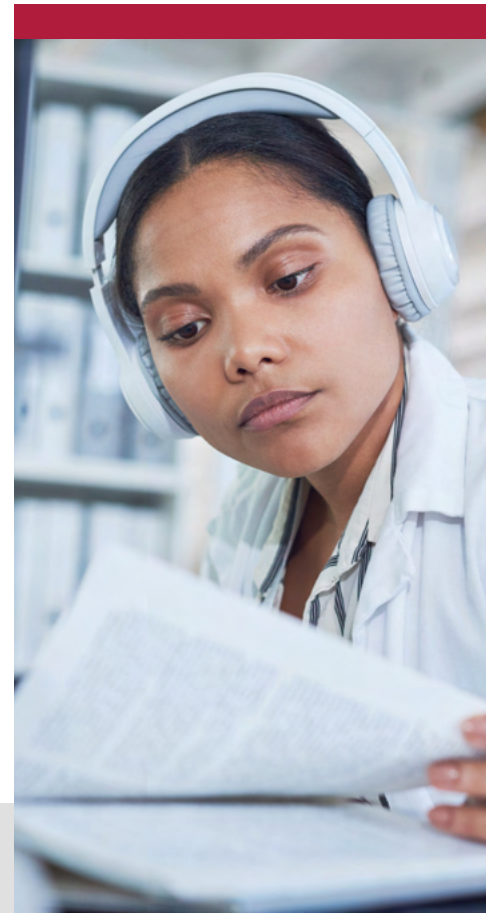
Effective Writing for Health care is a one-year certificate, with three four day workshops (two virtual, one held in Boston). The learning model works to elevate your communication skills and depending upon the specific track for which you are enrolled, your ability to:

- Develop a high-impact article for a medical or scientific journal
- Convey your opinions and ideas to the public

In the first half of the year, you will partake in the Core Curriculum aimed to strengthen key foundational writing skills, such as crafting cogent persuasive arguments, creating cohesive paragraphs, being concise and using strategic grammar. In the second half of the year, every scholar will develop a submission ready capstone project with support from a Capstone Reviewer, who is chosen based upon the reviewer's expertise in publishing manuscripts or writing for the public.

Your Capstone Reviewer will guide you in the creation of your capstone project, including:

- Assisting on the pitch and outline of your writing project
- Reviewing the revised drafts of your capstone
- Providing guidance to help you optimize its value to you and your institution



Curriculum Highlights

The Effective Writing for Health Care certificate program is designed to help you achieve your writing and career objectives through the key Core Curriculum and one of two specialized tracks.

This program features a blended learning model comprising live workshops, self-paced on-demand sessions, live webinars and writing exercises with feedback that work to elevate your writing skills. These exercises can be tailored to your specific writing goals. Each specialized track culminates in a capstone project, where you will develop a submission-ready written work.

After completing this program, you will have the skills to:

- Design and craft impactful, effective and persuasive writing
- Utilize detailed reasoning and evidence to defend your academic argument
- Write in a cogent, coherent and cohesive form within the disciplines of science, medicine and health care
- Communicate to diverse audiences with clarity and confidence



Who Leads the Program?



Jamie Robertson, PhD, MPH
Program Director

Director of Innovation in Surgical Education, Brigham and Women's Hospital
Assistant Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School



Djøra Soeteman, PhD, MsC
Capstone Director

Affiliated Faculty, Center for Health Decision Science, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Academic Requirements

This program requires a high level of English proficiency. Our learners typically hold a terminal, doctoral or master's degree in a health-related subject.

During the application process, you will be asked to submit the following documents:

- Curriculum vitae or resume
- Personal statement of up to 500 words on how you will benefit from the program
- A writing sample in support of your application not more than two pages in length

STUDENT PROFILE

Open to passionate learners who are committed to improving health care across the globe, this program is designed for clinicians, clinical investigators, researchers and allied health care professionals who desire to improve their writing skills, process, quality, reach, impact and the likelihood of publication or funding.

LEARN MORE AND APPLY

hms.harvard.edu/writing

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