

Writing Across the Curriculum+ Science-Specific Support for Teaching Communication Skills



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Barriers

What barriers to using communication assignments do science faculty report?

Marking time required

Providing feedback is challenging

Limited teaching assistant resources

Identifying suitable assignments

Goals

What are the goals of the WAC+ Program?

Support science educators in teaching and mentoring science communication

Encourage increased use of writing and spoken communication in science courses

Create a cross-departmental community of faculty who use communication in science courses

The WAC+ Program

26 Presentations of **6** educator workshops:

Writing assignment and assessment design

Providing effective feedback on writing assignments

Strategies for student success with writing

Teaching succinct and accurate science writing

Non-traditional communication assignments

Teaching oral communication in science

2 Best practices in science communication symposia highlighting 15 communication topics, including:

Oral lab reports

Undergraduate research journals

Press releases

Online peer review

Infographics

Wikipedia entries

7 Consultations providing guidance and feedback on teaching science-specific communication

100+ Online resources for science students and educators

Response to the WAC+ Program

230 Workshop attendees representing

70 courses across **4** faculties

10 Department-specific workshops

"These workshops should be mandatory for all instructors!"

"This is a fantastic resource that addresses a critical part of student learning."

"Your workshops are among the best I have attended at UBC - lots of content delivered in an efficient way."

The WAC+ Team



Learn More

www.scwrl.ubc.ca/wac

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UBC Faculty of Science Quick Facts

429 Faculty members **8,157** Undergraduate students

43,000 Alumni **1,417** Graduate students

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