Writing Workshop is usually held 2:00–2:45 p.m., unless otherwise noted; laptops required. In-Class Activities sometimes require the use of i>clickers, as noted. Homework Assignments must be emailed to phys496@physics.illinois.edu by the deadline.

January 20—first day of class
Introduction to Writing Workshop—rationale and goals
WW #1—“Finding the Right Word”
Course introduction and web tour
Icebreaker: Standards and values for physicists group activity
Technical communications in physics
Effective titles
No homework due today

January 27
WW #2—Literature search group activity
Evaluating a science talk or colloquium
How to read a physics paper
How to get started if you hate to write, Part I—Outlining
HW #1—“Evaluating Titles”

February 3
WW #3—“Using the Right Word”
How to get started if you hate to write, Part II—Building coherent paragraphs
Voice and tense—Making verbs work
Guest speaker
HW #2—Outlining a Paper

February 10
NO WW today—come to class promptly at 2:00 p.m.
How to write an abstract
Writing an abstract—collaborative activity + group presentations
Rules for capitalization and acronyms (bring your clicker!)
Colloquium Report #1
Submit the name of the professor you are going to interview for HW #5 and a list of your interview questions

Questions? Ask early—ask often!
phys496@illinois.edu
February 17
WW #4: “Four-Letter Words in Science Writing”
Avoiding plagiarism
**Clicker activity: Plagiarism case studies**
Reference rules and styles in scientific writing
**Guest speaker**
**HW #3—Abstract and Title**

February 24
WW #5: “Ambiguous Pronouns”
How to build a logical scientific argument
Revising and editing your work
**Clicker activity: Rules for expressing numbers**
**HW #4—Proper Referencing**
**Colloquium Report #2**
N.B. deadline for registering for April GRE is next week—March 3!
“Acing the Physics GRE,” an APS webinar

March 3
WW #6: “Them Thar Indirect Openings”
Creating good figures
Tips for figure captions
Peer reviewing
**HW #5—Writing for a General Audience**

March 10
WW #7: Evaluating figures team activity and team presentations
Effective science talks
PPT Tips for science talks
Using PPT to outline a short science talk
First meeting of journal-club teams
**HW #6—Peer Reviews**
**Colloquium Report #3**

March 17
**NO WW today**—come to class promptly at 2:00 p.m.
**HW #7—Short Science Talk (presented during class; slides emailed to instructors)**

March 24—spring break—no class

**Questions?  Ask early—ask often!**
phys496@illinois.edu
March 31
WW #8: “Writing Instructions” team activity and team presentations
Applications—CVs and statements of purpose
**Clicker activity: Rules for mass, count, and collective nouns**
Guest speaker
**HW #8 Telling Your Story in Figures and Captions**
Submit your paper selection for your journal-club talk

April 7
A framework for ethical decisions
**Clicker activity: Ethical or not? You decide**
Hard problems—ethical case studies team activity
Team presentations of their cases and class discussion
**No homework due today—Physics GRE tomorrow**
Make arrangements for your JC team to meet with Professor DeMarco next week

April 14
WW #9—“The Three-Preposition Rule (3PR)”
Template for a journal-club presentation
Scientific posters
**Clicker activity: Eliminating fluff in scientific writing**
Guest speaker
**HW #9 CV and Statement of Purpose**

April 21
WW #10—“Shooting for Shorth”
**HW #10 Journal Club Talks (presented during class and slides emailed to instructors)**

April 28—last day of class
WW #11—“Putting it All Together—Ms. P-style Editing”
Intellectual property and copyright
Guest speaker
Class Wrap-Up
**Colloquium Report #4**

Questions? Ask early—ask often!
phys496@illinois.edu