

Class name: 上級木 -Reading, Writing, Presenting, and Discussing Research

(In person (対面) /18:30–20:00) Instructor: Dr. Rick Weisburd

Join us for weekly, casual, and enthusiastic discussions about exciting recent research and ways to read, write, present, and discuss science from research papers and news articles. Journals are the home of scientific knowledge, but research writing can be intimidating and challenging to understand. Each week a recent research paper or news article written in English about research will be distributed for the following week's discussion. In class, we will analyze and discuss these papers for focus, context, linkage, specificity, logic, clarity, coherence, and cogency. In addition to **having fun**, the goals of this class are to **improve critical thinking, discussion, presentation, and writing skills**.

**The instructor** will provide a research paper and lead the discussion for the first session on **4 June** but for subsequent sessions, participants will be expected to take turns selecting the science topic, nominating a reading, presenting a short introduction, and leading the discussion with help from the instructor. **To stimulate discussion**, reports of interdisciplinary studies of short to moderate length and of interest to a broad audience will be preferred; research that is topical, elegant, surprising, fascinating, provocative, well written, poorly written, or some combination of these is particularly appropriate for our discussions.

**Questions, comments, or critical discussion** of the papers will be expected from every participant in every session they attend; sessions with lively discussion are the most fun. In addition, the instructor will demonstrate aspects of research writing and presentation techniques, many from the perspective of reader expectations; participants are invited to request explanations of specific writing and presentation topics.

*A TOEIC score of 700 or higher (or equivalent) is recommended.*

The eight sessions will be held from 18:30 to 20:00 on Thursdays from 4 June through 23 July 2026:

4, 11, 18, and 25 June; 2, 9, 16, and 23 July

Instructor: Rick Weisburd

<http://orcid.org/0000-0003-4266-6612>

American (permanent resident of Japan) PhD: Oceanography. University of Hawaii

BSc cum laude: Biological Sciences (minor in chemistry). State University of New York at Albany.

ELSS, Inc. (株式会社 ELSS), Founder, President, and Editor-in-Chief.

<http://www.elss.co.jp/> April 2006 to present.

Associate Professor of Biology at the College of Biological Sciences, University of Tsukuba.

April 1997 to March 2006.

Career Objectives: Facilitate the publication of research through excellence in both teaching about research communication and provision of excellent scientific editing and translation services.

Encourage, facilitate, and implement transition to sustainable human activities through individual, corporate, educational, governmental, and intergovernmental action.

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2026 June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

4

July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

4

8days

 In person(対面)

**\*\*受講者の声\*\***

・ジャーナルクラブで論文を紹介して、その内容や文章について議論するという内容でした。普段読まない分野の論文を知れたのも良かった。

(2025 年度対面授業、Research Article Journal Club & Science topics 木クラス受講 同講師による授業)

・人数規模がちょうどよく、双方向のコミュニケーションが活発で、ライティング・スピーキングの両方の観点で有意義だった。

(2025 年度対面授業、Research Article Journal Club & Science topics 木クラス受講 同講師による授業)

・この授業で教わった原則は科学分野に焦点を当てたものだったが、一般的な英語の文章作成や編集スキルを向上させるためにも応用可能だと思った。

(2025 年度対面授業、Research Article Journal Club & Science topics 木クラス受講 同講師による授業)