This course is all about the procedure, technique and art of scientific writing. The class will meet twice a week with alternate meetings devoted to topical discussions (journal choice, style and structure, authorship, the peer review process, ethics, preprints); and progress reports and group critiques by students.

The emphasis in this class is on “learning by doing”: Students will contribute as co-authors to a review paper with the preliminary title “Lava Worlds: From Early Earth to Exoplanets”. The topic will be rocky planets with near-surface temperatures that exceed the melting point of silicates, a condition which may describe Earth soon after its formation, and which is likely the case on some planets found orbiting extremely close to other stars. The manuscript will be submitted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal following the course.

Three credits, A-F grading, no auditors.