Week 5: Writing I – The Basics

Instructors Outline

Introduction:

Discussion of why one should write well

Discuss the Tools that are available to the students, both online and at BU

Show and demonstrate the following online tutorials:

- Merriam-Webster Dictionary,
- Oxford English Dictionary,
- Thesaurus,
- Different Grammer help books,
- Bartleby website,
- Indiana University's Cheminfo website with Science Writing Aids,
- Online Grammer Help on Technical Writing,
- BU Educational Resources,
- Boston University Writing Tutorial webpage,

Break for refreshments

Discuss the ACS Style Guide

Rules to follow...and when to break them

- Revising and Editing : an overview
- Editing and Revising for Clarity (hedging, noun stacks, empty fillers, tautologies): Shortening Phrases, Word Choice
- Grammer and Numbering (12 fumblegrammer rules for scientists), Grammer Woes (subject/verb, tense, nouns) , Passive voice
- Refencing and Editorial Style
- ACS Style
- Other editorial style considerations

Reading Assignment for the Students:
Read Chapter 8 in Graduate Research-A Guide for Students in the Sciences