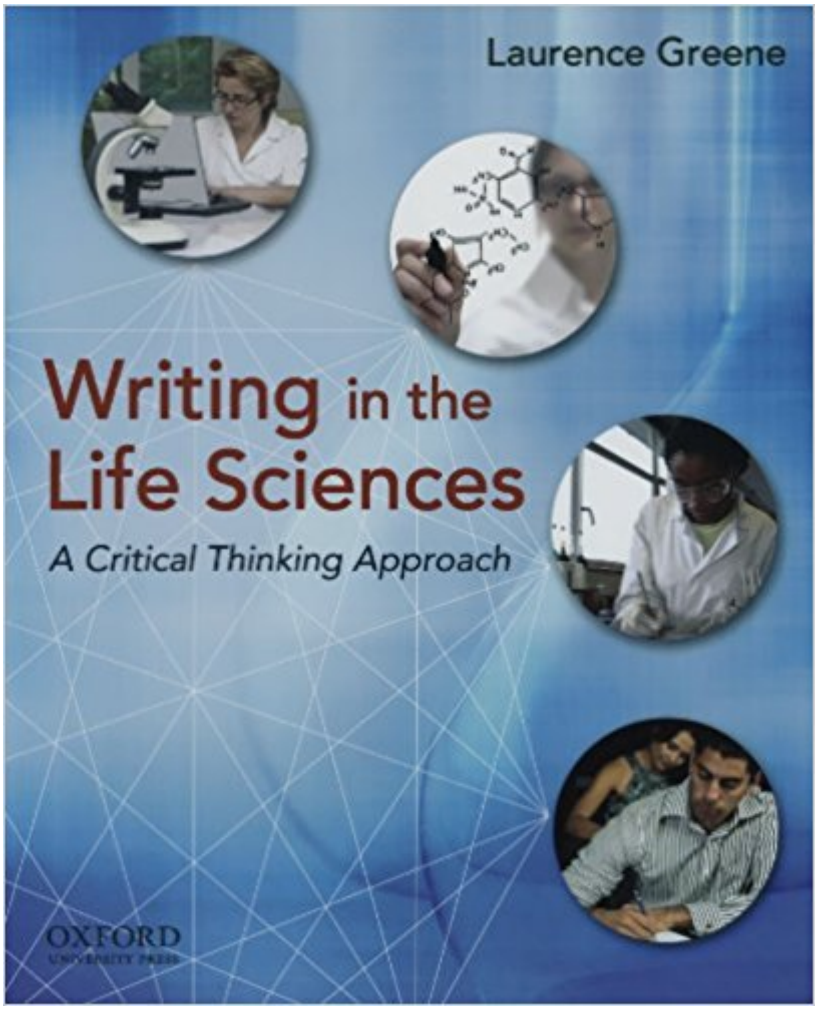
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Writing In The Life Sciences: A Critical Thinking Approach



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Synopsis

Practicing scientists know that the quality of their livelihood is strongly connected to the quality of their writing, and critical thinking is the most necessary and valuable tool for effectively generating and communicating scientific information. Writing in the Life Sciences is an innovative, process-based text that gives beginning writers the tools to write about science skillfully by taking a critical thinking approach. Laurence Greene emphasizes "writing as thinking" as he takes beginning writers through the important stages of planning, drafting, and revising their work. Throughout, he uses focused and systematic critical reading and thinking activities to help scientific writers develop the skills to effectively communicate. Each chapter addresses a particular writing task rather than a specific type of document. The book makes clear which tasks are important for all writing projects (i.e., audience analysis, attending to instructions) and which are unique to a specific writing project (rhetorical goals for each type of document). Ideal for Scientific Writing courses and writing-intensive courses in various science departments (e.g., Biology, Environmental Studies, etc.), this innovative, process-based text goes beyond explaining what scientific writing is and gives students the tools to do it skillfully.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Laurence Greene, PhD, taught scientific writing and integrative physiology at the University of Colorado at Boulder from 1993 to 2009. With funding from the National Science Foundation and the CU-Boulder Faculty Teaching Excellence Program, Dr. Greene developed discipline-specific

scientific writing courses for undergraduate and graduate students. In 2009, Dr. Greene left academia to practice what he had preached as a writing instructor. He is currently a scientific and medical writer in South Florida.

Excellent; comprehensive. I am using it to rewrite my Ph.D dissertation as a book; it is helping me tremendously.

This book is among the best. I found the information so useful I know share it with my students. I recommend this book to anyone who feels stuck during the writing process.

great

Hate this book its sooo boring. I need it for class though so im stuck with it till the end.

I teach a writing in biology class. I gave up years ago on other textbooks and have relied on worksheets and brief lectures to convey the points I want students to consider when writing a scientific research paper. This book is the answer to a prayer. It has all of the elements I've wanted in a textbook. I never thought I could fall in love with a textbook or reference book. I was wrong!Rather than telling readers to "consider the audience" this book explains exactly what that means and gives specific examples. Other chapters talk about how to write to the readers' expectations, how to revise what you have written (at the global, paragraph and sentence levels), how to analyze why you are writing (usually it is not to prove you did your homework), how to build a convincing argument that deals with contradictory information, and how to avoid plagiarism and cite properly.I'll absolutely be adopting this book for my class. As I delve more deeply into the text, I find myself nodding in agreement with the author and exclaiming "Yes!" out loud. This book is written for writers who are not necessarily English majors. You won't find long passages on grammatical rules. Rather, this book is a guide to the thought process that leads to effective writing. It's useful to read through it carefully and then refer back to specific chapters as needed. I wish I'd had access to this text when writing my own dissertation years ago. But you don't need to be a graduate student to benefit. Anyone from high school onward would find this text valuable.Best of all, it's relatively inexpensive, making it accessible to anyone who is writing about science. This is well worth the investment because the content is timeless. By focusing on the process and not the product, the author has written a book that is going to be referred to for decades to come.

Very thorough with immediately applicable exercises.

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