

ABSTRACT

Keeping EAP Writing Instruction Current in the Changing Landscape of Research Communication

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There is little doubt that new technologies are disrupting traditional approaches to written research communication. In the case of the new generation of graduate students and scholars, academic writing tasks are becoming more complex. It is no longer enough for them to master traditional research genres such as literature reviews and journal articles; graduate students and scholars must also now master new forms of these genres as well as new digital genres, which are increasingly multi-modal. In the case of research articles, for instance, many journals are requiring new types of abstracts that involve animation or a short author presentation (video abstracts). Apart from this push toward multiple modes of communication, authors are also being expected to produce written texts to more broadly engage with the world outside their immediate academic communities. Again considering research articles, these may need to include both a traditional abstract and plain language summary or a lay abstract.

In short, what it means to be literate in our digital era is different than what it was previously. As graduate students and scholars are being asked to navigate new rules of research dissemination, they require an enhanced set of knowledge brokering skills and a broader genre repertoire that will allow them to transport their research and expertise across many boundaries. This talk will explore the changing landscape of research writing and ways that English for Academic Purposes writing programs can respond through new course offerings and other support that can help students to develop writing agility.

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BIO



Christine Feak teaches at the English Language Institute, University of Michigan, where she is the lead lecturer for EAP writing courses. Christine also teaches at the African Studies Center, in which she is the writing mentor for the University of Michigan African Presidential Scholars. She is co-author (with John Swales) of the widely acclaimed textbook *Academic Writing for Graduate Students*, and the English in Today's Research World series on the writing of research genres. From 2015-2022 she was Co-Editor-in-Chief of *English for Specific Purposes*, an international peer-reviewed journal focused on the teaching and learning of discourse for specific communities.