

**Medical Communication
New York University
Syllabus
3/28/16-4/18/16**

Course Directors: Christina Hughes, PhD and Sloka Iyengar, PhD

Introduction

The Medical Communication Course is intended for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows who are curious about a non-academic career trajectory after their graduate or postdoctoral work. Participants will have an opportunity to evaluate their interest as they take this course and in the end, participate in a medical communication assignment.

Maximum number of participants

25

Objectives

1. To familiarize participants with medical communication as a viable alternative career path
2. To understand basics of clinical trials
3. To learn how to make the switch from academia to medical communication
4. To get experience with hands-on assignments
5. To understand what skills you have that might make you fit for a career in medical communication

The course will meet for 90 minutes once a week for 4 weeks.

Sessions will be held in **(Coles 109)** from 3/28/16 to 4/18/16 from **5:30 pm-7 pm**

Week 1 (3/28/16)-

An introduction to medical communication

- The types of agencies involved in medical communication
- The interaction between a medical communication professional and the pharmaceutical company
- Types of projects and a typical work day
- What does the job search look like?
- Career trajectory
- Making the transition from academia

Week 2 (4/4/16)-

An introduction to clinical trials

- The importance of understanding clinical trial design and results in med comm
- Basics of clinical trials
- Why are they so highly regulated?
- How does a hospital or a clinic go about doing clinical trials?
- Primary vs. secondary endpoints; adverse events and serious adverse events
- What are medical science liaisons and what do they do?

Week 3 (4/11/16)-

Hands on medical writing part 1

- Various medical communication projects with examples
- Understanding your project and your audience
- The editorial department

- Citing your work
- What are agencies looking for?
- Assignment to take home

Week 3 (4/18/16)-

Hands on medical writing part 2

- Assignments handed back and grading criteria explained, with examples