

## **Name of course: Journal Club**

**ECTS credits: 1.5**

### **Course parameters**

*Language:* English

*Level of course:* PhD course

*Semester/quarter:* January – March and October – December 2025

*Hours in total:* approx. 33 hours (including in-class and out-of-class course work)

*Capacity limit:* 10-15 participants

### **Objectives of the course**

The number of scientific articles increases substantially, and it can be overwhelming for PhD students to focus on scientific reading while also conducting other important tasks of their PhD program. The journal club is a proven effective measure to increase the understanding in scientific reading and writing and improve the knowledge in your field of research. The objective of this course is to (1) improve critical thinking, (2) increase your knowledge by reading peer-reviewed scientific articles in your field of study, and (3) maintain your reading and writing habits. The journal club is set up as a course for all PhD students interested in improving scientific reading and writing skills. During the sessions, PhD students will examine peer-reviewed articles with the overall goal of improving their own scientific outputs. In addition, the PhD students will perform exercises related to scientific reading and writing. The course will include a combination of lightning and impulse talks, presentations, peer discussions, and hands-on-practice.

### **Learning outcomes and competences**

At the end of the course, the student **should be able to:**

- Understand the overall setup and objective of a scientific article.
- Have substantially improved their scientific reading and writing in their field of study.
- Know important and recent scientific articles in their field of study.
- Have prepared and presented an oral presentation.

### **Course contents/Sessions:**

1. Impulse and lightning talks on different aspects concerning scientific reading and writing as brain teasers.
2. Oral presentation on a topic regarding scientific reading and writing prepared by the PhDs, lecturers, and guest speakers.
3. Critical examination of scientific articles in your field of study.
4. Peer-discussion of scientific articles.

### **Prerequisites:**

PhD students from Agroecology

### **Name of lecturers:**

Christian Dold, Jared Onyango Nyangáu

Department of Agroecology, Science and Technology, Aarhus

### **Type of course/teaching methods:**

Lightning talks, presentations, peer discussions, invited guest lecturers, out-of-class exercises

### **Literature:**

Peer-reviewed scientific articles based on the interest of the PhD students.

**Course assessment:**

Pass or Fail based on class participation, and out-of-class exercises.

**Provider:**

Department of Agroecology

**Compulsory program:**

1. Participants are required to attend and complete all the exercises for at least 9 out of 12 sessions to pass the course.
2. Participants are required to give one oral presentation.
3. Participants are required to keep a reading log and read at least 25 scientific papers from their field of study.

**Time and Place:**

12 sessions in total (Jan – Mar 2025 and Oct – Dec 2025, 1 hour per week); all sessions are in-person at AU Viborg.

**Registration:**

- Everyone can join the Journal Club to listen to interesting talks or learn about specific issues concerning scientific reading and writing. The compulsory program does not apply.
- PhDs who want to receive ECTS need to register via email to Christian Dold ([c.dold@agro.au.dk](mailto:c.dold@agro.au.dk)) no later than Jan 22, 2025. The compulsory program applies.

Schedule for Season 1:

Session No.	Date	Location	Discussion round	Impulse talk	Main Session	Lecturer	Requirements
1	29. januar 2025	M3		Introduction to the Journal Club (5-10 min)	1. Introduction to AU Library; 2. Literature search in WoS - Introduction; 3. Publication strategy; 4. Scientific landscape (45-50 min)	Christian Dold & Anne Mette Emdal Navntoft	Bring your PC
2	5. februar 2025	M1	One sentence on what you learned on scientific reading and writing by reading scientific articles.	Systematic Review	Create a list of relevant literature for your research topic in WOS and ResearchRabbit	Camila Herrera Coy & Thilini Madushika P Heiyanthuduge	Bring your PC
	12. februar 2025						
3	19. februar 2025	M1	One sentence on what you learned on scientific reading and writing by reading scientific articles.	<b>Introduction to the bibliometric Analysis</b>	Do a bibliometric analysis on your own research topic	<b>Camila Herrera Coy OR Christian Dold</b>	Bring your PC
4	26. februar 2025	M3	One sentence on what you learned on scientific reading and writing by reading scientific articles.	Introduction to the mini-paper	Write your mini-paper	Christian Dold	Bring your PC
5	5. marts 2025	M3	One sentence on what you learned on scientific reading and writing by reading scientific articles.	Introduction to AI tools for scientific reading and writing	AI tools in scientific writing and reading: Training session	Meret Kaspereit	Bring your PC
6	12. marts 2025	M3	One sentence on what you learned on scientific reading and writing by reading scientific articles.	Impulse talk from PhD (2x)	<b>(1) In groups: Peer-feedback on your mini-paper or other writing; (2) Feedback round on the Journal Club</b>	All	Bring your PC

Link to our Teams folder: [https://aarhusuniversitet.sharepoint.com/:f/s/TECHJORNJRJournalClub/Etv\\_lAIouwNMqraJOqITesMBecUIIni5\\_BOzAka7Qi-y8Q?e=PIXamL](https://aarhusuniversitet.sharepoint.com/:f/s/TECHJORNJRJournalClub/Etv_lAIouwNMqraJOqITesMBecUIIni5_BOzAka7Qi-y8Q?e=PIXamL)