

UCSF Division of Prevention Science & BESST Institute Presents

The Craft of Scientific Writing: Publishing Social and Behavioral Health Research

Trainer: Jesus Ramirez-Valles, PhD, MPH

Scientific writing in the health, social, and behavioral sciences is more than reporting results—it is the craft of shaping ideas, evidence, and argument into a clear, persuasive contribution to a body of knowledge. While many scholars receive strong methodological training, fewer have the opportunity to develop the practical, applied writing skills needed to move an idea or research findings from draft to publication or to understand how editors and reviewers actually engage with their work.

This **in-person, hands-on workshop** is designed for **early- and mid-career scholars** in public health, health psychology, medical sociology, and related social and behavioral health fields who are actively working on manuscripts or research in progress. Delivered across **three interactive sessions totaling 12 hours**, the workshop emphasizes writing as an iterative, collaborative process grounded in real scholarly practice.

Participants will work directly on their **own manuscripts or research ideas**, engaging in guided writing exercises, small-group discussion, peer feedback, and individualized consultation. The workshop integrates strategies for publishing **both quantitative and qualitative methodologies**, with attention to writing strategies, manuscript structure, clarity, voice, journal fit, revision, and navigating peer review. Scholars writing in English and/or Spanish will receive guidance on crafting work for global and interdisciplinary audiences.

The workshop is led by **Jesus Ramirez-Valles, PhD, MPH**, an accomplished author, editor, reviewer, and mentor with over 30 years of experience publishing and reviewing scholarship in the **social and behavioral sciences in health**. A fully bilingual scholar (English/Spanish), Dr. Ramirez-Valles brings deep expertise across **qualitative and quantitative methods**, and extensive editorial insight into how manuscripts are assessed, revised, and ultimately accepted for publication.

