

# Academic Writing Workshop for PhD Scholars and Early Career Researchers

Jointly organised by  
**Symbiosis Centre for Research in Media and Creative Industries and  
International Communication Association (India Chapter)**

**Workshop Facilitators: Professor Dr Usha Raman and Professor Dr Aswin  
Punathambekar**

**Date: 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**Venue: Symbiosis Institute for Media and Communication, Symbiosis  
International (Deemed University), Lavale, Pune, India**

**Application Deadline: 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**Workshop Fee: INR 1,500 (see below for exceptions)**

## Call for Applications

We invite applications for an Academic Writing Workshop for PhDs and early-career academics, organised as a precursor to the *International Conference on Media and Communication 2026*.

This workshop is open to current PhD scholars at any stage of their doctoral work, as well as early career academics who have completed their PhD within the last two years.

The workshop is hosted by the Symbiosis Centre for Research in Media and Creative Industries and the International Communication Association (India Chapter), and will be led by **Professor Usha Raman** (Academic, Writer, and Former Professor, Department of Communication, University of Hyderabad) and **Professor Aswin Punathambekar** (Professor of Communication, University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg School for Communication).

## Workshop Format

The workshop will cover three broad areas of academic writing for media and communication scholars:

1. **The literature review:** synthesising the literature, articulating theory in lucid ways, connecting ideas, and developing your own voice through it all.
2. **Writing an abstract:** positioning your work in the current debates, pitching your idea in a way that speaks to the demands of a journal/conference.
3. **From thesis to book:** Thinking through a book proposal, going from thesis to monograph.

### Application and Selection Procedures

Participation in the workshop is through a competitive, selection-based process, since registrations are limited. **Applicants are required to submit a 500-word research statement outlining the ongoing research or doctoral project they would like to develop through the workshop.**

**The participation fee for the workshop is INR 1500.** However, if your paper has already been accepted for presentation at the International Conference on Media and Communication 2026 and you have also registered for the conference, you are exempt from paying the workshop fee. If you are not registered for the conference, the workshop fee must be paid separately.

**The last date to apply for the workshop is 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026.** Applications must be submitted through [this Google form](#). The link is also provided in the detailed communication and on the conference website.

Please note that only successful applicants, who have been contacted by the organising committee, should register for the workshop.

For queries or clarifications, please ***icmac2026@simc.edu***