Description of course

The seminar is intended to be a  space for practice and discussion, mutual learning and to talk about academic writing as a creative process. By focusing on the use of structure and 'building from' an outline, and not on the use of word of phrase banks, we will explore how academic writing is a creative expression of our research. Each participant must have a draft they are working on already, and must be prepared to work in smaller groups to develop their ideas further, as well as to give feedback to the other participants.

First part: basic components of academic papers
We will talk about the basic components of any academic paper for public health disciplines. What kind of information we should present in each section, and the use of language, grammatical and syntax rules that apply to each section. We will discuss:

1. Introduction
2. Background
3. Methods
4. Findings/results
5. Discussion
6. Conclusion

Second part: the use of the outline system
In the second half of the seminar, we will talk about what is an outline, how to develop one and stick to our structure to help and guide us through the confusing process of writing, re-writing and revising our manuscript.

1. What is an outline?
2. How to use an outline
3. The importance of topic sentences
4. Developing an 'expanded outline' and using it to build a paper