

Below are comments from students who have taken SYGN503.

*"I really wish I had taken this class when I first started at CSM. I learnt so much about what to expect from people at CSM and more importantly what they expect from me. If you want to get better at academic writing, develop professional skills, communicate effectively with the academic and industry communities, politely handle school/industry related conflicts, then I'd definitely recommend this class. This course felt like a break from rest of the classes, more like a chance to share ideas with other graduate students from different departments. It's a relief to learn that you are not alone in this journey here at CSM." EK (a PhD student in her 3rd year)*

*"I found this course to be very beneficial as it was rich with valuable tools and information in both inside and outside the academic life. It exceeded my expectations in many dimensions of the materials and teaching style. I much appreciated the open discussion, friendly and fun teaching, which made it an excellent platform to build more networks with graduate students." MA (a PhD student in his 1<sup>st</sup> year)*

*The course SYGN503 Integrating into the CSM Community helped me to keep my mind open for both my personal and professional life, and I would like to recommend this class to all international students. Plant a seed in your mind and embrace the new life at Mines." WP (an M.S. student in his 2<sup>nd</sup> year)*

**Instructor:** As adjunct faculty, Diane Witters has extensive experience working with CSM graduate students. She teaches technical writing and coaches students in oral presentations and other professional skills through the Center for Wave Phenomena in the Department of Geophysics.