Plain Language/Plain Writing

Objective: To teach the basics of writing and editing in plain language.

Intended Audiences: Writers and editors. This course is offered through The Regulatory Group, but 95% of the information applies equally well to writing regulations and to writing any other sort of business or government communication, including material intended for the Internet.

Duration: The outline below describes material that can be covered in three to five hours of class time, depending on the size of the class and the time available. If a full day is desired, the additional time is best used working on documents that the students are somewhat familiar with, editing them to make them plainer and more reader-friendly.

For More Information, or to Contract for this

Course: Contact Piedmont Maury Consulting (202-215-7927) or The Regulatory Group (202-466-3205)

Table of Contents for the Student Manual:

Section		Page
1	Introducing Plain Language	7
2	A Quick Review of the Federal Rulemaking Process	25
3	Preparing to Write for your Audience	31
4	Creating a Reader-Friendly Format	37
5	Writing Effective Sentences	59
6	Using a Reader-Friendly Style	69
7	Choosing Reader-Friendly Words	77
Appendix 1: Resources for the Plain Language Writer		93
Appendix 2: A Quick List of Plain Language		0.4
Recommendations		94
Apr	pendix 3: Rewriting a Short Rule, Step by Step	96