

Research techniques and career development of a scientist

The course introduces research tools and techniques needed for a successful PhD project and further scientific career. A prominent part of the course is related to the scientific writing and includes practical exercises where the participants will learn to give and receive feedback on their writing. The detailed content of this part is given below. In addition skills such as creating your CV, preparing a job application, organizing your work, and working in teams will be covered. Additional topics might be included such as coping with stress and balancing work and free time.

Content of the Scientific Writing module:

Basic skills and tools needed to produce well written scientific documents relevant for PhD students: reports, conference abstracts and proceedings, grant applications and the thesis.

The course is (loosely) based on the book:

David Schultz

"Eloquent Science: A Practical Guide.."

ISBN-13: 978-1878220912

ISBN-10: 1878220918

Part I Importance of Communication for Scientists

Part II Writing Scientific Papers

Scientific publications. Scientific journals. The craft of scientific writing: tools and practical tips.

Structure and contents of a scientific paper. References and citations.

Figures. Language and style. Readability.

Part III The Publication Process

Participating in peer review. Co-authors, reviewers and editors.

Preparing, submitting and revising a manuscript. Responding to reviews.

Correcting proofs. Ethics in science and publishing.

Part IV Preparing and Delivering Scientific Presentations

Part V Preparing Grant Application (example NCN PRELUDIUM)

Participants are expected to contribute with own short scientific texts (extended abstracts or short conference proceedings) to be peer reviewed and discussed during the course.

Course material: Hand-outs and suggestions for further reading.

Content of the Career Development module:

Organizing and Planning for Success

- Methods and tips of self-management
- How to set short and long-term goals based on the most effective methods and good practices
- How to effectively increase your efficiency in professional and personal life.
- Methods of coping with stress and (such as practice mindfulness)

Working with a team. Selected aspects of group work:

- Conducting group meetings
- Techniques enhancing group co-responsibility
- Structuring the discussion and conclusions

- Listening and effective self-expression
- Being a group/team leader
- Influencing and persuading in the individual relationships. Inviting to collaboration (without formal authority)

Building your professional brand. Good CV, Internet presence, recruitment processes. Self-presentation and presentation techniques

- Professional brand and its communication.
- Exercise: How to write a good researcher's CV
- OTM-R (Open, Transparent, Merit-based Recruitment) recruitment rules
- What recruiters for scientific positions pay attention to?
- Self-presentation during recruitment interviews; tough questions
- Conference presentations. Good practices