

Workshop I

Academic Presentation

Content

Nowadays, scientists must find effective ways to explain complex material — and to convince the audience of the importance of the research. Storytelling helps here. It makes difficult information more understandable and it includes the listeners.

This workshop focuses on preparing and giving a scientific presentation on an advanced level. In the workshop, all participants will give their presentation in front of their fellows. Each presentation will be followed by a discussion slot and an intense 360-degree feedback given by fellow participants and the trainer.

After the workshop, participants have a clear, realistic impression about their individual strengths and about aspects they should work on to become more successful.

Intended Learning Outcomes

At the end of the workshop participants will be able:

- to identify and improve both verbal and non-verbal speaking strategies.
- to use storytelling to adapt content to the audience's needs and interests.
- to strengthen exchanges with the audience, particularly non-expert audiences.

Preparation

Participants should bring a three-minute presentation about their current research.

Trainer



Dr. John Kluempers has been using his voice professionally for nearly two decades. First, as a radio journalist at Deutsche Welle, Germany's international broadcaster. And now as a presentation trainer. He has helped hundreds of Ph.D. candidates and post-docs in Germany and Austria to take their presentations to the next level. He got his doctorate in linguistics at University of California, Los Angeles, lived in Berlin before moving to Tokyo, Japan where he taught at Dokkyo University. These experiences in vibrant, bustling metropolises on three continents have broadened his understanding of the cultural aspects in communication we all face in multinational organizations. Dr. Kluempers is an expert for professional and scientific English and a member of Toastmasters International, an organization where people become better public speakers.

Workshop II

Academic Writing

Content

This workshop concentrates on the process of writing an academic manuscript. Detailed information will be given concerning the essential content for each manuscript section. Additionally, other writing aspects such as choosing an audience, creating a story, explaining complex data and formulating convincing arguments will also be discussed. Workshop participants will be instructed in the formal and organizational aspects of academic writing and train their competency with exercises.

Intended Learning Outcomes

At the end of the workshop participants will:

- understand how to prepare for writing and how to write efficiently.
- learn to build an interesting story from their data.
- have a detailed overview of the structure of a scientific manuscript.
- improve their argumentation skills for writing convincingly.
- be familiarized with the publishing process.

Preparation

Participants should bring a 250-300 word abstract on their own work.

Trainer



Dr. Melanie Lynn Conrad was born in Vancouver, Canada, where she studied biology at the University of British Columbia. With 14 years of experience in research, her expertise includes paper and grant writing, presentation design and explaining her research to her grandmother. Presently, she leads a reproductive immunology research group at the Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin.