

Overview of the workshop programme

Academic writing

How to create good texts

Universität Duisburg-Essen

Collaborative research centre “Non-Equilibrium Dynamics of Condensed Matter in the Time Domain”

24 August 2018 [9.00 – 14.00]

Target group: Female postdocs and PhD candidates

Trainer: Celeste Brenneka PhD, GOLIN WISSENSCHAFTSMANAGEMENT, Hamburg

For many young scientists writing is the most difficult part of research work. Poor structure, breakneck formulations and unclear argumentation lead to texts which are not too user friendly. However, for the success of academics it is essential that the content is successfully conveyed to the relevant target groups – from the subject community to the wider public.

The methods and instruments of scientific writing can be learnt. With a few select mechanisms for structuring and techniques for building arguments, it becomes possible to articulate even complex data clearly and comprehensibly. Coherently built up and convincingly formulated, even academic texts can be an exciting read!

In this workshop the process of academic writing is highlighted from the first idea through the structuring and formation of the text to its completion. The participants engage with the content related, formal and organisational aspects of writing and train their text competency with exercises. The following topics are covered:

- >> Abstract, article, thesis:
Text types and reasons for writing in academia
- >> From idea to text:
Topic selection, structure, argumentation
- >> Rummaging, digging, serving it hot:
Research strategies
- >> Writing as a process:
Utilising creative bursts – avoiding blocks
- >> The eye reads too:
Convention and form
- >> Academic writing:
My next steps

Celeste Brenneka PhD, Münster, is from the United States and earned a PhD in biomedical engineering. Since transitioning into the field of scientific writing 5 years ago, she has worked with various international clients as a scientific editor and scientific writing coach. Additionally, in 2015 she started the Science Writing Support at the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster. Her workshops help scientists craft writing and create presentations that deliver their intended message clearly and powerfully.