

Presentation skills for scientists

Topic area:	Science communication
Format:	Online or in-house workshop
Workload:	Online: 4 x 2.5 h-webinars plus self-paced work on our learning platform; in-house: 2 workshop days
Trainer:	Karin Bodewits or Philipp Gramlich
Target group:	PhD students and postdocs



Learn how to select and structure your content, craft a clear core message, engage your audience, and receive individual feedback on your presentation.

Whether presenting at a conference, defending their PhD thesis, or explaining their research in an interdisciplinary meeting, scientists face the same challenge: turning complex research into an engaging presentation. Impressive results alone do not make for a good scientific talk.

Present your research clearly and confidently

Scientists have to select, structure and communicate complex information for a specific audience. Preparing a presentation is much more than making good science understandable and visually appealing. A strong scientific presentation needs a clear core message and a coherent structure to turn your research into an engaging story. You'll also benefit from this

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process: deciding what your audience really needs to know often helps you think more clearly about your own research.

Practice your scientific presentation

The real test of a scientific presentation happens in front of an audience. Of course, we'll learn some theory about stage fright, rhetoric and audience engagement, but that is just the basis for the finale: In this workshop, you'll have the chance to present your research to the group, receive individual feedback and practise handling a live Q&A session.

In this workshop, you'll learn about:

- Audience and setting: Who are you speaking to, what do they need to know - and what can you leave out?
- Structure and core message: How to turn your research into a coherent scientific presentation.
- Adapting complex research to different audiences.
- Storytelling: From an engaging opening to a memorable conclusion.
- Slide design: Visual support, not decoration.
- Presenting online: How *not* to speak to a wall of switched-off cameras.
- Stage fright: How to make the adrenaline work for you.
- Voice, body language and delivery.
- Audience engagement: Turning listeners into participants.
- Handling questions and difficult Q&A situations.
- Practice and feedback: Present your own research and receive feedback from the instructor and peers.

Workshop materials:

Online: During and after the webinar phase, participants have three weeks to dive deeper into the course material on the learning platform and receive individual feedback from the course instructor.

In-house: All participants receive a PDF script of the course, allowing them to revise the material at their convenience.