

Workshop

Introduction to the peer review process: A Workshop for early career researchers

Organizational details

Instructor: Prof. Dr. Elmar Schlüter*

Date: ~~April 20, 2018, from 10.00 to 17.00 h~~ - this date has to be postponed

April 27, 2018, from 10.00 to 17.00 h

Possible alternatives: **May 04, 2018** or **May 11, 2018** from 10.00 to 17.00 h

Location: JLU Main Building, room 315, Ludwigstrasse 23, D-35390 Giessen

ECTS: 3

Objectives

Peer review is the “lifeblood of research in academia [...] the social structure that subjects research to the critical assessment of other researchers” (Bourdieu, 1975). More technically, peer review serves to evaluate the quality of articles for publication in journals.

Most new academics will sooner or later participate in the peer review process – both as authors and as reviewers. It is thus increasingly important to understand the formal and informal rules of the peer review system. This workshop transmits such theoretical knowledge and practical competences. Some of the core questions we will deal with are: What makes a good research article – and what makes a good peer review? What is an impact factor? What is the H-index? Which types of peer review do exist? Which ethical aspects need to be considered when doing a peer review? What is a DOI? What are key points of criticism of the current peer review system? How can I become a peer reviewer?

Content

Participating in this workshop will not only help to conduct high-quality peer reviews, but also to become a better author. Such competencies can be particularly important for new academics who need to prove their merit.

Day 1 (April 20, 2018)

10:00-10:45 Publishing in academia & the peer review process

11:00-12:30 How to write empirical research articles

--- Lunch break ---

13:30-15:00 How to evaluate empirical research articles

15:15-16:45 How to communicate your findings as a peer reviewer

16:45-17:00 Wrap-up, overview take-home exercises peer review

Day 2 (April 27, 2018)

10:00-10:45	Peer reviewing your peer review I
11:00-12:30	Peer reviewing your peer review II
--- Lunch break ---	
13:30-15:00	What journals want
15:15-16:45	Publishing in academia & peer review processes: future developments
16:45-17:00	Wrap-up & answering open questions

Methods

This 2-day workshop will comprise both lecture-style input sessions, Q & A rounds as well as hands-on practical exercises such as (a) starting to review an empirical research article and (b) discussing different examples of real peer reviews. You will work both individually and in teams.

To gain the ECTS credit points participants have to:

- Active participation on both days
- Submission of a peer review (to gain the ECTS points it is possible to hand the peer review in German language, if preferred)

Target group

The workshop primarily targets doctoral candidates and postdocs.

Course language

English

Registration

By **April 10, 2018** via e-mail at info@ggs.uni-giessen.de.

* Dr. Elmar Schlueter is Professor of Sociology with a special focus on methods of cross-national research methods. He publishes both in sociological and social psychological journals, with several years of experience in the peer-review process. Profile at Google Scholar:

<https://scholar.google.de/citations?user=z6CfxrUAAAJ&hl=de>