

Teaching Assistantship Programme Workshop

Presenting at International Conferences: Knowledge, Skills, and Challenges

Organizational details

Instructor:	Pavla Samoylova, Ph.D Candidate
Date:	December 5, 2022, 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.
Venue:	Gustav-Krüger-Saal, JLU main building, Ludwigstr. 23, 35390 Gießen
Max. number of participants:	10

Objectives

As a workshop participant you will receive theoretical knowledge and practical training about presenting at international conferences. The workshop targets to provide information about structuring short presentations; communication with the audience; dealing with difficult and provocative questions; and acknowledging the local cultural environment.

Content & Methods

Content

Conferences are an important part of the academic life of every scholar, no matter what degree they are pursuing and in which academic field. These events are excellent opportunities to exchange ideas, develop new contacts, and expand views. However, successfully performing at conferences, especially at international ones, may require certain knowledge and skills. Additionally, some conferences may become challenging due to their organization or local culture. This workshop is designed to help the participants by providing presentation tools to overcome such challenges. It contains two parts: The first part focuses on theoretical knowledge about good practices of presenting, the second part contains practical exercises and coaching. During the first part of the workshop, the participants will:

- Introduce themselves, their presentation projects, and share their own experiences;
- Gain theoretical knowledge about good and effective conference presentations;
- Do exercises to improve their presentation skills.

During the second part of the workshop, the participants will:

- hold a short presentation in the classroom simulating a conference setting;
- Receive feedback from the instructor and peers.

Methods

The first part of the workshop will concentrate on the participants' current knowledge and experience in order to identify skills they can improve and develop. The instructor will elaborate on the most important aspects of successful conference presentations such as structuring, timing, developing "hooks", communicating with the audience. If the participants already have conference experience, they are welcome to share it with the peers. After the theoretical part, the participants will do practical exercises on how to maintain connection with the audience, how to make their message heard and how to improve their vocal intonation.

The second part of the workshop will concentrate on practical application of what has been learned during the first session. The participants will simulate a conference and hold a short presentation. After the exercise, every participant will receive feedback about their improvements and have the possibility to address questions and share opinions.

Detailed Timetable

Part 1. Introduction to successful presentation on international conferences	Part 2. Practical simulation of conference
09.00 - 09.15 Introduce yourself	13.30 - 14.00 Instructions
09.15 - 10.00 Lecture	14.00 - 14.45 Presentations
10.00 - 10.45 First part exercises and feedback	14.40 - 15.00 Feedback
10.45 - 11.00 - Break	15.00 - 15.15 - Break
11.00 - 12.00 Second part exercises and feedback	15.15 - 16.15 Presentations
12.00 - 12.30 Discussion	16.15 - 16.45 Feedback
12.30 - 13.30 - Break	16.45 - 17.00 Questions and discussion

Target group & Course Language

Students, doctoral candidates, postdoctoral researchers.

The participants should bring a 5 minutes presentation of their projects and be able to present them in front of the simulated conference audience.

Course language: English

About the instructor

Pavla Samoylova is a PhD candidate at JLU Giessen and her research is focused on freedom of speech in heavy metal music. She also has decent experience at presenting her project at international conferences, including at Aalto University (Finland), University of Nantes (France), and Salzburg University (Austria).

Registration

By **28 November 2022** via e-mail at info@ggs.uni-giessen.de.