Let’s Begin! Writing Your PhD Proposal in English

**Objective**

Writing an effective PhD proposal is an important steppingstone to becoming a professional academic writer. Many students underestimate the time and effort it takes to produce a successful proposal. Therefore, this online workshop provides you with the knowledge and skills to get a clearer idea of what you want to do in your doctoral research - and to share this idea with others in a coherent, precise, concise and attractive proposal. To get you going, we start with defining, or re-defining, your research concept. During the workshop, you have the opportunity to work on your own topic and with the methods that appeal most to you. In addition, we analyze proposals from different research fields to help you develop a deeper understanding of clear, goal-oriented and appropriate language and style. This way, you will also get to know better the standards and requirements your proposal should meet. After you have presented your ideas to others and used their feedback to revise your concept, you can take your first (or next) steps of writing and improving your proposal. A few weeks after the workshop, you may get together with the trainer in an online consultation session to receive individual, personal feedback on your structure and/or a text extract.

**Description**

These topics are covered:

- Taking inventory: resources, competences & challenges of writing PhD proposals
- Elements of proposals, and the functions of these elements
- Methods for organizing ideas and conceptualizing research
- Using peer feedback to revise ideas, concepts, and texts
- Creating a realistic research plan
- Developing, or getting back into, a productive writing routine
- Reading attentively to become a better writer
- Expressing yourself clearly, and with confidence in formal written English

**Methodology**

Individual reflection, writing tasks, small-group work, plenary discussions, peer feedback, trainer input. After the online workshop, participants can register for an optional individual text feedback / writing consultation session.

**Conditions**

You prepare some small tasks before the workshop:

- Bring 2-3 examples of PhD proposals from your field of research
- Do some online research on standards and requirements

You are willing to share your experiences, take part in practical exercises, and use longhand writing.

**Organizational Information**

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<th>Language</th>
<th>English</th>
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<tr>
<td>Target group</td>
<td>First-year Doctoral Candidates from Humanities and Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Monday-Tuesday, 4-5 July 2022, 10:00 – 17:00</td>
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<td>Registration</td>
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