

## 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 online 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 learn more about 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 days or 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

- Taking inventory: resources for, competences for and challenges of writing PhD proposals
- Elements of proposals, and the functions of these elements
- Methods to organise your ideas and to conceptualise your 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 appropriately, clearly, and with confidence in formal written English

### Methodology

Individual reflection, writing tasks, small-group work, plenary discussions, peer feedback, trainer input. After the 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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| Language / FFormat | English / Online  |
| Target group       | First-year Doctoral Candidates from Humanities and Social Sciences          |
| Date               | Monday 17 April 2023, 10:00 – 17:00<br>Tuesday, 18 April 2023, 9:30 – 16:30 |
| Registration       | <a href="#">For registration click here</a>                                 |

### Trainer



**Vera Leberecht**  
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Vera Leberecht studied Linguistics, Intercultural Communication and Theology in Germany and Finland. She worked at Maastricht University Language Centre for several years before starting her own training and consulting business in 2008. She is enthusiastic about empowering professionals to communicate with reason and resonance, in academia and beyond.