

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 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 (re-)defining your research concept. You have the opportunity to work on your own topic and with the methods that appeal most to you. In addition, we analyse 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

- Taking inventory: resources, competences and 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 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 individual text feedback / writing consultation session (via zoom, Skype or phone).

Conditions

- Bring 2-3 examples of PhD proposals from your field of research and do some online research on standards and requirements.
- You are willing to share your experiences, take part in practical exercises, and use longhand writing.
- The workshop takes place via zoom; you are expected to switch on your camera at least during the plenary sessions.

Organizational Information

Language	English
Target group	First-year Doctoral Candidates from Humanities and Social Sciences
Date	Thursday, 24 June 2021, 10:00 – 17:00 Friday, 25 June 2021, 9:30 – 16:30
Registration	For registration click here

Trainer



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writing with reason and
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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.