

*Seminar*

## Thesis-Defense Training

<b>Target group</b>	PhD students
<b>Seminar description</b>	<p>During the defense of their thesis, doctoral students have to give a presentation of 10 to 30 minutes which is followed by a discussion. This workshop is designed to prepare doctoral students optimally for this situation.</p> <p>In the first part of the workshop the participants get practical tips for their introductory presentation: how to structure the presentation, how to build up the central argument, what language to use, etc.</p> <p>The second part of the workshop deals with typical problems that occur during the discussion: How to respond to criticism and "killer-questions", how to deal with stage fright and black-outs, etc.</p> <p>In the third part of the workshop, participants get the chance to give their presentation and to receive feedback from the group and from the trainer.</p>
<b>Contents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• tips and exercises for a convincing presentation</li><li>• types of questions (counter-arguments, critical questions etc.) and how to deal with them</li><li>• setting and roles during the defense</li><li>• how to deal with stage fright and blackouts</li><li>• presentations by participants and feedback from the group and the trainer</li></ul>
<b>Objectives</b>	<p>The participants...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• give a convincing and well-structured presentation</li><li>• deal in a confident manner with counter arguments and critical questions</li><li>• are well prepared and feel confident about their thesis defense</li></ul>
<b>Methods</b>	<p>The methods are interactive throughout the workshop. The participants get the chance to practice their presentation and to receive feedback from the group and from the trainer.</p>
<b>Materials</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• script including a bibliography (pdf document)</li><li>• exercise sheets</li></ul>
<b>Duration</b>	2 days, 9 am – 5 pm
<b>Group size</b>	Max. 10 participants