

PhD Course

Interpersonal and Networking Skills

Block course:

16.01.2019: 09:00 am - 05:00 pm

Course Instructor: Dr. Wiebke Deimann

Course Overview: A strong network opens up doors, not only to good jobs, but also to valuable information, inspiring exchanges, unexpected possibilities etc. Successful networking means establishing and maintaining interpersonal relationships and it starts right here and right now. “One cannot not communicate” (P. Watzlawick). How we communicate is key to how we are seen by others and to the way they respond to us. Interpersonal communication skills are therefore crucial both for our personal and professional life and form the ground on which we build our relationships and networks. The way we communicate is rooted in our cultural background. In international settings it is therefore very helpful to be aware of this in order to avoid misunderstandings.

In this workshop the fellows will get the chance to reflect upon the way they communicate and interact with their colleagues or research partners. They can learn and discuss the meaning of professional networking and take a closer look at their individual networks and networking practices. They will be assisted in developing individual strategies on how to improve their interpersonal and networking skills within a professional, multicultural context. Theoretical inputs will provide them with background information for reflections and discussions; additionally, there will be plenty of room for practice.

Topics:

- Significance of interpersonal skills and professional networking
- Reflection on individual communication techniques and mindsets
- Communication strategies for difficult situations
- Improving small talk skills
- Intercultural communication
- Strategies for authentic and successful networking

Teaching language: English