Workshop: Thesis Defense Training

The last big milestone in a PhD is the oral defence of the dissertation, which brings particular challenges in communication. This workshop is aimed at doctoral candidates who want to prepare intensively for their disputation. Based on the participants' individual experiences, presentation techniques and five defense strategies are discussed in the workshop. The PhD candidates actively implement these strategies in the most important part of the workshop – the disputation simulations. Each candidate will present his/her research in five minutes and answer questions from their colleagues.

In addition, managing stage fright and nervousness will also be addressed.

In this workshop you will ...

- get an overview of what to expect for your thesis defense
- get to know typical questions which may occur in your thesis defense
- get individual feedback concerning your rhetorical performance
- train to show your scientific expertise in an appropriate way
- be able to implement different communicative strategies that allow you to react to difficult questions in a calm and professional way
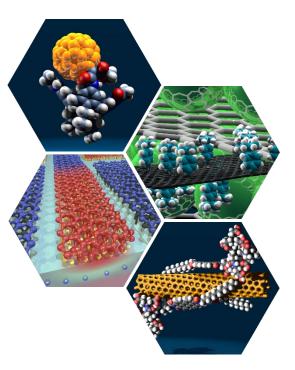- get tips on managing stage fright and nervousness

16th & 17th February 2023

9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Online Workshop

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Coach

Alexander Roggenkamp studied Modern and Contemporary History, Political Science and English Philology at the University of Muenster and the University of Cyprus and graduated as Magister Artium. He also studied Speech Training and Speech Science in Muenster and Bochum. After his studies, he worked as a lecturer in oral communication at the University of Muenster. Between 2011 and 2017, he directed the German Academic Exchange Service in Athens, Greece. Since 2006 he has been a trainer at "Sprechwege – Kommunikationstraining und –beratung" and provides communication and presentation training in English, German and Greek.