

**POSTPONED TO
SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER**

MANDATORY

Prof. Giulio Di Toro (Università di Padova)
Prof. Fabrizio Nestola (Università di Padova)

**The PhD student in the
research world**

75% ATTENDANCE MINIMUM



Part I: How to make a talk

(Lecturer: Prof. Giulio Di Toro)

Today people have limited time to make decisions. In an interview, you might have only few minutes to impact on someone, get a job and change (hopefully better!) your life. You have to prepare carefully your CV to be interviewed, but also the talk for the interview and think about the questions the people in the audience can make. Possible applications of **short talks include:**

Job interviews

Viva of B.S., M.S., Ph.D. thesis, etc.

Scientific meetings

Professional reports

Presenting your work (cooking your chicken) with a talk is an art, but there are some basic rules to avoid to ruin your chicken. And if on that day you will have a turkey, well, at least cook well that turkey. In other words, to get good feedback from a talk, you don't have to show something **groundbreaking**, but it **is vital to make clear what you have done and why**. People sitting in the audience wish to learn from you and often do not have knowledge on that specific topic you are going to address.

In this short course, first we will discuss a series of basic rules and suggestions* to improve your scientific and technical communication skills (case for a short talk). Then, you will prepare your short talk (12 minutes + 3' of questions) on a topic related to your research activities. The talk will be constructively commented by the entire class.

The rules and suggestions are based on (1) "lessons" I received at the Brown University (USA) during my Post-Doc from Prof. Terry Tullis and Prof. Jan Tullis, (2) my experience as a speaker, auditor, chair and convener of sessions at international meetings and (3) books and reports I read on this topic in the years.

SCHEDULE: postponed to September-October

LOCATION: LOCATION: telematic due to COVID-19 emergency

Part II: How to construct a strong CV

(Lecturer: Prof. Fabrizio Nestola)

This part of course will be focused on the meaning of some crucial “numbers” like the “H-index”, the “m-index”, the journal “impact factor”, the “citations”, the WoS and Scopus databases. This is the base for an international evaluation of a CV only based on numbers. Although a CV cannot be based only on these parameters, however, they are a very critical issue in all competitions in terms of the most common European grants like the ERC Grants, the MSCA fellowships (both Standard or Global), the Alexander von Humboldt fellowships and others. Also in the Italian system, a young researcher could apply for a SIR (Scientific Independence of Young Researchers), or to the “Rita Levi Montalcini Program” (if you already have a Ph.D. title and work in a foreign country) and both these two programs again use the above parameters for some parts of the CV evaluation. Finally, a very interesting program offered by our University is the so-called STARS, which is a very interesting funding program (at post-doctoral level) with the final aim to train a young researcher to apply for an ERC grant.

In addition, the Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research carries out a national evaluation of Italian research every 4-5 years based on what is called “VQR” (Evaluation of the Research Quality), which is determined using the above parameters. At the same time, the “ANVUR” (National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities) every year allows researchers to apply to obtain the so-called “Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale” (ASN), which officially provides the “habilitation” to Associate Professor or Full Professor and also in this case the habilitation is to some extent related to the above parameters.

The lecture wants to face all these issues which are crucial for building an impacting CV to several research funding programs and to start an academic career in Italy or everywhere in the world.

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