

Presenting & Rhetorical Skills

"Making the simple complicated is commonplace; making the complicated simple, awesomely simple, that's creativity" – Charles Mingus

Effective English-language presentations are nowadays an indispensable part of the international academic world. From short updates within a research team, through presentations at conferences, to defending one's master's or PhD thesis: it is important to be convincing in a wide range of situations and on different platforms. In addition to well-founded content, the recipe for success is, above all, an aura of self-confidence and a sound command of the English language and the good news is that both these skills can be trained!

Objective

This workshop provides its participants with the most important ingredients to confidently give English language presentations that attract attention. The focus is on proficient language fluency, the use of practice-oriented communication techniques, rhetorical skills and nonverbal communication. The participants become more confident, which in turn increases their success with their audience.

Content of the Workshop

- Ingredients of effective academic presentation
- Visualization techniques
- Establishing a relationship with the audience (avoiding "the curse of knowledge!")
- Learning to use rhetorical tools, in order
 - to ensure an effective start ("The first 90 seconds")
 - to achieve a successful build-up of tension
 - to interest, guide and convince the audience
- Rhetorical questions and techniques, such as "tripling" (the rule of three), "machine-gunning" or "dramatic pausing"
- Using one's voice optimally
- Dealing with stage fright
- Mastering difficult situations in a foreign language, e.g. responding confidently to interposed questions and objections and returning to the topic
- The path to professional academic presentation includes, among others,
 - individual presentations, 3-minute rhetorical talks, spontaneous presentations, poster presentations etc.
 - analysis of the participants' contributions by means of video recordings including feedback (only in the 2-day workshops)
 - discussion and analysis of presentation film footage

Target Group

Undergraduates or PhD students who wish to become more self-confident and impactful when giving presentations in an international setting.

Required English Language Skills

CEF level B2 / C1 and above

We offer a short online test to ascertain the respective language level of the participants. This is helpful but not a must.

Number of Participants

Up to 10 participants

Duration

1 - 2 days

Kommunikation schafft Verbindung.

