

Grant Proposal Writing for Late PhDs and Early Postdocs

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Goals: This online workshop gives you strategies and tools to craft grant proposals that meet the needs and expectations of your readers. We consider how to develop a grant writing game plan, respond to critical grant questions, write regularly to move your grant forward, tell a clear and cohesive story, and draft, revise and resubmit your proposal.

- The proposal writing process and your own writing style. Overcoming writer's block and how to make writing part of your daily research.
- Creating your game plan and finding your research niche.
- Strategies for starting (early!) and gathering critical information to ensure you follow and meet specific requirements.
- Writing your Specific Aims one-page document that answers critical questions grant readers want clearly and persuasively answered.
- Crafting your draft and finding your storyline through focused freewriting, ABT, outlining, storyboarding, speedwriting and reverse engineering text.
- Meeting the needs of a grant proposal reader. Reader versus writer-oriented scientific text and how to motivate your reader.
- How to write clear, concise, and compelling sentences that communicate your ideas and persuade your readers.
- Telling a coherent and cohesive story: the secrets to creating smooth, readable texts.
- Handling the important recycle and resubmit part of grant proposal writing. Writing resubmission letters.

Scheduling: The online workshop (Zoom) takes place over 4 afternoon sessions (1:00-5:00 CEST) for a total of 16 hours. The workshop works best with 2 sessions one week and 2 sessions the following week or the week thereafter.

Workshop Activities: PowerPoint presentation, discussion, pair and group work, text analysis and revision activities, self and peer review, and writing exercises.

Workshop Materials: Participants receive a schedule and script approximately one week before the first session. Handouts are provided during the workshop.

- Approximately one week before the first session, I email participants and ask them to briefly tell me about their work, their writing challenges, and current or potential grant applications.
- I also ask participants to send:
 - a PDF of a published paper in their field of research. The paper should not be their own work or that of someone at the University of Vienna.
 - information about a grant application of interest to them.
- Participants are asked to bring a sample of their own writing (draft and/or final form) for self and, if they wish, peer review.