

Prepare for the Doctoral Defence

This is a one-day workshop *for last-year PhD students*, offering a comprehensive preparation for the defence or doctoral viva voce, your last step towards finishing your doctorate, besides the mandatory publication. After years of specialization, of extensively focusing on very complex scientific themes, methods, and theoretical frameworks in writing, you are required to distil the essence of your dissertation into 20-30 minutes for a quite diverse audience. According to what criteria do you select from your thesis and design a compelling research narrative? What kind of questions should you expect and, perhaps even more importantly, how can you deal with killer questions? The workshop will address these topics and more and will deal with gender differences. One PhD candidate gets the opportunity for a full doctoral mock exam.

Topics:

- aims of the doctoral defence
- efficient preparation for the defence
- presentation skills
- designing an interesting and fascinating research narrative
- dealing with exam anxiety and “stage fright”
- preparing and dealing with “killer” questions
- doctoral mock exam

Coach

Dr. Dunja Mohr, Go Academic!, Munich, is a coach for scientists. For more than fifteen years, she has offered academic skills workshops and career counselling for international and national academics of various career stages on behalf of universities, foundations, excellence clusters, Graduate schools, including the FAU’s Ariadne mentoring program.

When and Where

Wednesday, 19th February 2020; 9:00 am to 4:00 pm; Palmeria, Palmsanlage 3, Erlangen; rooms: Bamberg & Nürnberg

Further information

Participant limit: 10

Course language: English