

DIES Proposal Writing Courses for Research Projects

at the University of Cape Town, RSA:
Practical-oriented training for New Researchers

June 2nd–6th 2014 – 3 Months of E-Learning – November 17th– 21st 2014



DIES Proposal Writing Courses for Research Projects at the University of Cape Town, RSA: Practical-oriented Training for New Researchers

On behalf of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) the DIES Proposal Writing Courses Co-ordination Centre at the University of Cologne, together with the Research Office at the University of Cape Town are organizing a training course on

“Proposal Writing for Research Projects: Practical-oriented trainings for New Researchers”

Seminar 1: June 2nd–6th 2014, University of Cape Town, Republic of South Africa
Intermediate E-Learning Section: June–August (3 months)

Seminar 2: November 17th–21st 2014, University of Cape Town, Republic of South Africa

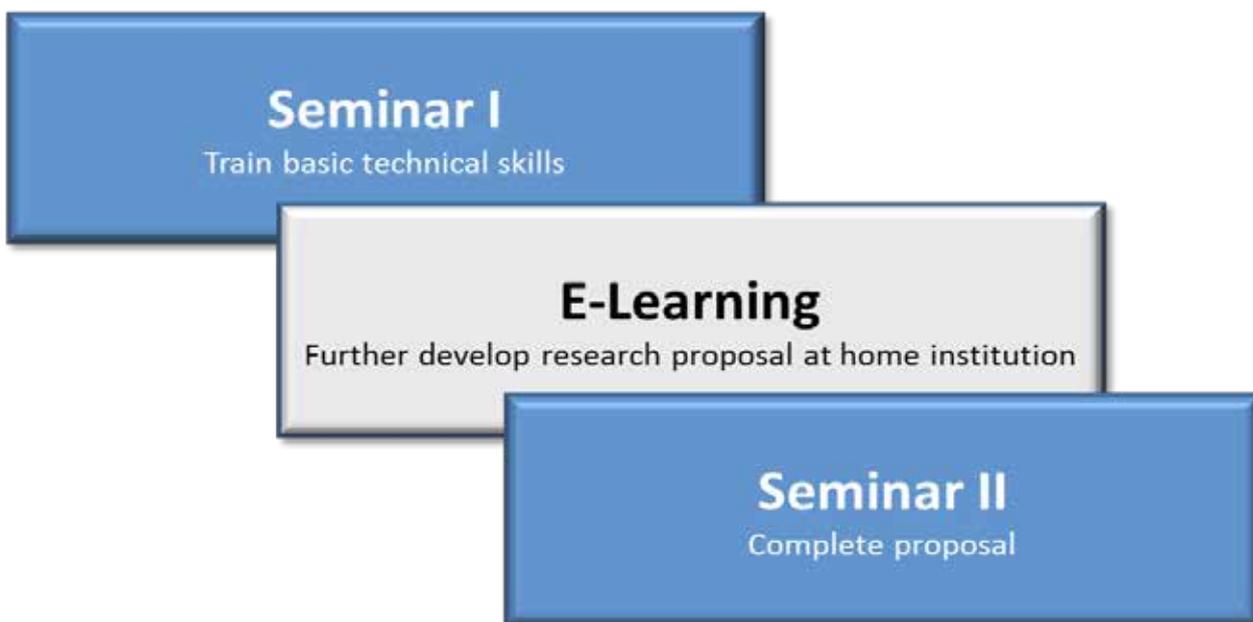
Course Description

The course is part of the DIES (Dialogue on Innovative Higher Education Strategies) programme of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Rectors' Conference (HRK). The aim of the DIES Proposal Writing Course is to train researchers and young PhD holders in developing a promising research proposal for national or international research funding (every participant will have the opportunity to tailor their application to the funding institution of their choice). Researchers from all disciplines can apply for this course. Each group will consist of 30 participants from the region. Because of its multicultural nature, the DIES Proposal Writing Course is also an effective tool for promoting international research and relationships.



Learning Approach

Using a blended learning approach, the DIES Proposal Writing Courses are structured in three sections: two on-site seminar sections (seminar 1 and seminar 2) and a trainer guided intermediate e-learning section.



Seminar I (June 2nd–6th 2014, University of Cape Town)

Seminar 1 will provide basic knowledge and basic technical skills that are needed to design, write and budget a potentially successful research funding proposal (e.g. to transform an abstract research idea into a proposal) on the basis of lectures, group work and exercises. Attendance and active participation from 9:00am to 6:00pm is required.

E-Learning Module – Intermediate E-Learning Section: June–August (3 months)

About three hours e-learning per week and the development of a 10 page draft of a research funding proposal (submission by August 31st 2014)

Primary objective of the e-learning is to enable the participants to submit a 10-page draft of his/her research funding proposal.

During the e-learning section the participants will work on their research funding proposal (including creation of a working plan and a budget plan) at their home institution and further develop it under the guidance and online counseling of the trainer team. 11 online chapters for self-study will be offered. Each chapter includes about 2 hours of interactive multimedia learning material and exercises. This content is specifically designed to help turn theoretical knowledge into practical skills that will help develop a successful research proposal. Additionally, personalized online support will be offered to all participants. This includes a virtual classroom for meeting and discussing with course mates and trainers. Participants should budget three hours per week in order to optimize use of the e-learning module.

Seminar II (November 17th–21th 2014, University of Cape Town)

During the second seminar, the research funding proposal drafts will be presented, discussed, evaluated and fine-tuned in a participative review process. The objective of this seminar is to engage in a collaborative feedback process between trainers and participants and ultimately develop a final draft. At the end of seminar 2, the research funding proposals should be ready for submission to research funding organizations.

Attendance and active participation from 9:00am to 6:00pm is required.

Participant Profile

Potential participants are researchers and young PhD-holders from RSA, Lesotho, Swaziland, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Zambia and Malawi,

- Participants must hold a doctoral degree or have equivalent research experience
- Have an affiliation to an academic institution in the above mentioned countries
- Possess excellent English language skills, both written and spoken
- Preferably young researchers up to 40 years of age are welcome to participate

Trainer Profile

The trainer teams consist of German and international experts: Research funding experts will provide expertise in the field of research funding, subject-specific experts will provide expertise in the field of a scientific discipline.



Partner Profiles

The University of Cape Town: The University of Cape Town (UCT) was founded in 1829 and is one of the most important academic hubs in the southern hemisphere. Both Shanghai and Times Higher Education ranking confirm UCT's outstanding position on the African continent.

The University of Cologne: The University of Cologne (UoC) combines innovation with tradition in its research and teaching since its foundation in 1388, which establishes its academic excellence as one of the best-known German universities. In 2012 UoC was distinguished as German University of Excellence.

proWiss (Consulting Services for Researchers): proWiss Consulting Services assist individual researchers and institutions of the higher education sector to develop and enhance research activities and to improve the efficiency of the institutions' researchers, faculty members, staff, and administrators.



Funding

The costs for this training course will be mainly covered by funds of the DAAD provided by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Following expenses will be covered:

- Course expenses (expert-honoraria, infrastructure, organization, material): approx. 1.246 € p.P.
- Travel expenses: Travel to and from Cape Town up to a pre-defined maximum rate. We kindly ask the participants to make their own travel arrangements – they will then be reimbursed in cash upon arrival in Cape Town
- Accommodation and meals during the two 5-day seminar modules in South Africa (according to DAAD regulations)

Expected co-funding: Participants and/or their home institutions are expected to cover local transportation in their home countries (for example: taxi to airport), visa costs (if applicable) and possible additional per diems for the stay in South Africa. Also, health insurance and other additional costs will have to be covered by participants and/or their home institutions. Use of a computer is not required during Seminar I and II, however participants who have a laptop at their disposal should consider bringing it.

Application Requirements and Process

Applications can be submitted on our webpage at <http://proposalwriting.globalsouth.uni-koeln.de> Following the link under “Information for Applicants” you will find the Online Application Form, which will be available starting from **March 7th 2014**. Please fill out all fields and upload all other application requirements (as mentioned below) on that form.

Exposé

We request you submit a 2-page exposé (approximately 5.000 characters) outlining your research proposal. This exposé should include the following sections:

- Introduction: Tell us what your research idea is generally about
- Relevance: Provide insight on the relevance of your work and what critical questions it will help answer
- Method: Describe the methods you envision using in your work
- Impact/Implications: Describe the potential impact of your work

Letter of Support

We ask that you submit a letter of Support from the University you are affiliated with. They should provide information about you relationship to, and functions at the University, and express support in you participating in the DIES course.

Please title all documents (word or pdf) according to the following example:
“familyname_firstname_expose”

Deadline for applications is April 6th 2014, 11:00pm German time.

30 participants will be selected according to the quality of their exposé and also based on regional and institutional profiles. Applicants will be given a final decision by the beginning of May 2014.

Contact and Information

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Dialogue on Innovative Higher Education Strategies



Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst
German Academic Exchange Service