

Transferable Skills Course

Proposal Writing for Natural Scientists

Prof. Dr. Dierk Hebbeln, Prof. Dr. Michael Schulz

MARUM – Center for Marine Environmental Sciences, University of Bremen

Objectives

Besides a general introduction to proposal writing, this course will put participants in the position to evaluate and – based on this experience – write their own proposal. Participants will obtain skills in proposal evaluation and proposal writing, and successful participants will end-up with a full proposal for their own position that can be submitted, for example, to the DFG.

Schedule

The course will be composed of four meetings, see schedule below. In the first part, participants will analyse and evaluate existing (successful and unsuccessful) proposals. The focus of the second part is on the development of an own proposal, which will finally be evaluated by the other course participants. The final, ambitious aim is to have a proposal for the own position at hand, which is (almost) ready for submission to a funding agency by the end of the course.

Day 1	3 March 2022	09.00 - 12.00
Day 2	1 April 2022	09.00 - 12.00
Day 3	28 April 2022	09.00 - 13.00
Day 4	15 June 2022	09.00 - 13.00

Day 1: General introduction, guidelines for evaluating proposals, distribution of existing proposals

Between meetings: Each participant will have to read approx. six 20-page proposals and to submit a written evaluation (approximately 1-2 pages) for two proposals.

Day 2: Evaluation of the proposals (simulation of a review-panel meeting)

Between meetings: Development of proposal outline by the participants

Day 3: Presentation of proposal outlines by participants

Between meetings: Proposal writing by the participants

7 June 2022: Submission of (draft) full proposals (approximately 20 pages) by participants.

Between meetings: Evaluation of the proposals. Each participant is expected to read all proposals and evaluate two proposals in detail.

Day 4: Evaluation of participants' proposals by their peers (review-panel session).

Early Career Researcher Support Programme

Format

Day 1: Live online via Zoom (the link will be provided before the course)

Please note that in our online courses, we expect people to turn on their cameras. This is a matter of respect towards the lecturer/s and makes any kind of interaction much easier.

Days 2-4: depending on the development of the pandemic, these course days will either be held online or in the seminar room (the lecturers will keep you informed)

Target group

The course addresses PhD students in their final year and early-career postdocs with a background in marine sciences **who plan to submit a proposal** to the DFG or another funding agency.

Registration

The number of participants is limited.

If you are interested in participating, you should send a motivation letter, including a one-page outline of your intended research proposal, **until 22 February 2022** to early-career@marum.de.

Please give your name, status (PhD student or Postdoc), institute / university and research area / working group as well as your field of study.

All documents must be combined into one single PDF file.