

University of Pisa

Ph.D. in Biology

(Coordinator: Prof. Arianna Tavanti)

Research Professional Skills Course

(Coordinator: Prof. Alessandro Massolo)

Pisa, 10th May 2022

In the context of the Ph.D. in Biology, a Ph.D. course in **Research Professional Skills** is organized by the Department of Biology of the University of Pisa.

The course, consisting of a total of 28-30 hours, is structured in three blocks as described below:

Block I: Writing Scientific Papers in English

Language: English

Contents: how to organize a scientific paper and how to avoid common English errors that compromise the communication and understanding of scientific results; see attached detailed calendar for further information;

Duration: six 2-hours modules, organized as a mix of lectures and active-learning activities; plus some activity sessions.

Lecturers: John Kastelic (University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada);

Dates: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 17:30 to 19:30, starting on May 17th till Jun 2nd 2022 (17, 19, 24, 26, 30 of May and the 3rd of June, a Friday).

Block II: Techniques and ethics for navigating in library resources

Language: this block will be mostly offered in Italian, although the course material will be provided in English.

Contents: 4 modules as described below:

- I module: Database: Where is the information?
Presentation of the main literature databases with a focus on the biological sector (Web of Science, Scopus, PubMed);
- II module: Search: how can we search the databases?
Presentation of the tool *OneSearch*, search strategies, boolean operators, sources included in the Discovery tool;
- III module: Management: how can we handle the selected literature items?
Citation styles, reference management, compiling a bibliography;
- IV module: Ethics: Copyright and plagiarism.

Duration: 2 hours per module, organized as a mix of lectures and active-learning activities

Lecturers: Dr. Gabriella Benedetti and colleagues from the Library System of the University of Pisa (Sistema Bibliotecario di Ateneo, UNIPI);

Dates: following the end of the Block I, dates to be determined, likely starting on the 7th or the 14th of June 2022.

Block III: General skills

Language: English

Contents: 2 modules as described below

- I module: *Scientometrics*: how to assess the quality and impact of scientific contributions;
- II module: *Scientific presentations*: how to efficiently present scientific results;

Duration: 2/3 hours for each module, organized as a mix of lectures and active-learning activities;

Lecturers: Prof. Lorenzo Peruzzi (I module) and Prof. Damiano Marchi (II module) Dept. Biology, University of Pisa;

Dates: dates to be decided for November and December 2022.

The course is mainly offered to Ph.D. students enrolled in the Ph.D. in Biology at the University of Pisa.

Nonetheless, **the lectures will be open to a wider audience**. To make the class manageable, **active learning activities will be limited to PhD students, unless the class size will allow otherwise**. The lecturers will decide depending on the attendance.

Even not UNIPi Ph.D. students and MSc Students are recommended to prepare (write) the documents for the active learning sessions, but they SHOULD NOT send them to the lecturers unless agreed with the lecturers.

The course will be in presence at the San Rossore Polo, but to guarantee the maximum attendance, the course will also be offered online using the MS Teams platform.

To register to the course on the MS Teams platform please use this link: [Course registration link](#).

If you are not a UNIPi student/researcher, you should contact the Course coordinator (Prof. Alessandro Massolo; alessandro.massolo@unipi.it) and he will add you as guest.