Popular science writing for researchers

Preliminary schedule (2024/2025)

This is a <u>preliminary</u> schedule for the PhD course *"Popular science writing for researchers"* (last updated June 28th, 2024). Note that some elements within the schedule might be moved between the sessions before the schedule has been finalized.

In order to register for the course, candidates must submit a short description (5 to 10 sentences is enough) of their immediate research field and their PhD project to the course leader.

Session I. 1 pm–4 pm. December 11th, 2024.

Presentations: Why become a science communicator? (Guest speaker) Personal experiences as a science communicator. Getting started with popular science writing. Some practical tips on starting and running your own popular science blog.
Homework until next session: Write popular science researcher profiles of each other.

Session II. 1 pm–4 pm. January 15th, 2025.

Presentations: What makes good popular science writing? How to find information outside your area of expertise. Being mindful of misconduct in research and academic publishing.
Homework until next session: Review two "professional" popular science texts. Write a short pitch for your popular science text.

Session III. 1 pm–4 pm. January 29th, 2025.

Group discussions: Reviews of popular science texts. Presentation of pitches.
Homework until next session: What constitutes unethical science communication? How does it differ from bad science communication? Expand your pitch.

Session IV. 1 pm–4 pm. February 12th, 2025.

Group discussion: Ethical considerations in science communication.
Presentation: What do editors want? (guest speaker)
Homework until next session: Write a first complete draft of your popular science text. Provide feedback on drafts of other course participants.

Session V. 1 pm–4 pm. March 5th, 2025.

Group discussions: Feedback on first drafts. Reflections on the course and science communication in general.

In order to pass the course, each participant must submit a revised version of their popular science text to be published on the course blog.