

1,5-day course

How to improve PhD supervision

KIT-Campus Alpin, June 22-23, 2023

This course supports supervisors in reflecting on and improving supervision of their doctoral students. Participants learn how to optimise their relationship with their doctoral students concerning efficiency, time management and expectations. They exchange experiences with colleagues and learn about the main problems in undertaking a doctoral project from the point of view of the doctoral student. Participants get advice on the decisive early steps of the relationship between supervisor and doctoral student, the supervisory process, and tools for evaluating and further developing their supervisory skills. At the end of the course, they have a variety of instruments at hand that they can apply directly for improving supervision of their doctoral students.

Course content

1. International developments in doctoral education
2. Biggest problems of doctoral students
3. Time to completion
4. Challenges of supervisors
5. Good practices in supervision
6. Developing supervisory styles
7. Enhancing the supervisor-student-relationship
8. Clarifying expectations
9. Setting up supervision agreements
10. Organising productive TAC meetings
11. Monitoring student progress
12. Self- and peer-assessment

The course includes lectures, exercises and discussion that offer ample room for addressing individual questions on supervision. All learning steps and aims are documented in a detailed handbook in English.

Target group

We invite 20 scientists who supervise, have just started to supervise or are planning to supervise doctoral students in the near future, to participate. There is a priority for postdocs, however, senior scientists can also attend.

Registration

Please register by submitting a short motivation email with your supervision history or plans to Elija Bleher **by April 16, 2023** at the latest. We allocate the 20 places following a first come, first served approach. Registration is binding. The course fees will be covered by the IFU Graduate Program. In case of no-shows the course fees (approx. 400,- € per person) will be charged to the research group.

Course Schedule

Thursday, June 22, 2023: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Friday, July 23, 2023: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Trainer

Dr. Bärbel Tress (TRESS ACADEMIC) was awarded a PhD in Landscape Ecology at the University of Heidelberg, Germany. She has many years of experience as a researcher, supervisor and lecturer at Roskilde University, DK, Wageningen University, NL, and the University of Aberdeen, UK. In 2007, Bärbel and Gunther Tress founded TRESS ACADEMIC to provide training in key academic competences for researchers.

