Georg-August-Universität Göttingen Module M.Biodiv.610: Science Communication in Biodiversity research 6 C 4 WLH

Learning outcome, core skills:

Making science accessible to the general public is becoming increasingly important to address current global challenges. A fluent dialogue between scientists and policy makers, industry, and the rest of the society is absolutely necessary for science to have an influence in a positive and more sustainable future, for instance. Abilities in scientific outreach are gradually becoming one of the requirements in many job descriptions and research projects funded by governments, private companies and other institutions. However, learning how to communicate science has traditionally not been included in the curriculum of many scientific careers.

This course provides the basic knowledge for scientists to effectively communicate about biodiversity to the general public. We will show how the Biodiversity Museum of the University of Göttingen can be used as platform for public outreach. The modul includes a lecture and a seminar to communicate the basics of science outreach, as well as a practical part where we will use the collections and tools of the Biodiversity Museum for individual projects.

The main objectives of this course are:

Examination requirements:

- 1. Learn the fundamentals of science messaging and benefits of science communication to the society.
- 2. Communicate scientific knowledge to several different broad audiences, including general community members, youth, and policy makers.
- 3. Produce your own effective science communication in biodiversity, e.g interviews, videos, photos or a museum exhibition project.

Workload:

Attendance time: 56 h
Self-study time:

124 h

Course: Introduction to science communication (Lecture)	1 WLH
Course: Introduction to science communication (Seminar)	1 WLH
A few sessions might be conducted in a remote format like online video conference.	
Course: Science communication in biodiversity research (Exercise)	2 WLH
Examination: Project presentation within a talk (approx. 30 min.)	6 C
Examination prerequisites:	
Realization of a science communication project within biodiversity research (e.g., design	
of a webpage, a movie or of an exhibition).	

Knowledge of basics in science communication. Learning of different techniques to present scientific knowledge. Admission requirements: Recommended previous knowledge:

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none	none
Language:	Person responsible for module:
English	Prof. Dr. Maria Teresa Aguado

Course frequency: each winter semester	Duration: 1 semester[s]
Number of repeat examinations permitted: twice	Recommended semester:
Maximum number of students: 12	