

ENG-647

Interdisciplinary seminar series

Garin Adélie, Kovacs Helena, Mair Philip, Mazard Julie, Milosevic Tamara

Cursus	Sem.	Type
EDOC General and external courses		Opt.

Language of teaching	English
Credits	1
Session	
Exam	Multiple
Workload	30h
Hours	30
Courses	24
Exercises	6
Number of positions	30

Frequency

Every year

Summary

This course focuses on interdisciplinary research communication through dynamic presentations, feedback, and collaboration with diverse audiences.

Content

Addressing society's most pressing and complex challenges requires interdisciplinary collaborations, for which researchers need specific skills to effectively work across disciplines. Among the core skills required for interdisciplinary research, effective communication and interaction with other researchers are key.

This course, entirely based on experiential learning and reflection, will allow you to learn and develop these skills by communicating regularly with EPFL researchers from multiple disciplines. You will learn how to share your research in a language meaningful to an interdisciplinary audience, and you will have the opportunity to engage with colleagues from other disciplines to gain their perspectives on research problems.

For 12 weeks, every Thursday from 16h to 17h30, two PhD candidates will prepare and present their research to an interdisciplinary audience and receive feedback from their peers, mentors and teachers from which they can learn and improve.

The seminars will be open to the public (advertised via memento) giving a chance to present to diverse audiences. Each seminar will be recorded, allowing doctoral candidates to rewatch their presentation for further insights and compare their performance to the feedback they will receive.

Through active participation in all seminars:

- You will become aware of the current research in other disciplines

Through preparation of your own seminar:

- You will learn how to explain the basics of your own project to a diverse academic audience
- You will learn how to express the scientific question and methodology as well as critically present first findings of a research project
- You will practice storytelling and visual communication

Through reflecting on the experience:

- You will learn how to give and receive constructive feedback
- You will reflect on the learning process, especially the feedback received from peers on one's own project presentation

The exam will be composed of:

- A recording of your presentation
- 2 peer feedbacks
- 1 self-reflection report
- Active participation in the 12 seminars

Keywords

presentation
interdisciplinarity
storytelling
communication
feedback

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, the student must be able to:

- Express the scientific question and methodology as well as critically present first findings of a research project
- Explain the basics of one's own project to a diverse academic audience
- Compose with audiences from various academic backgrounds
- Propose and receive constructive feedback
- Describe current research in other disciplines
- Discuss the potential for interdisciplinary collaboration

Resources

Moodle Link

- <https://go.epfl.ch/ENG-647>