

**Course aims:**

This course aims to provide the PhD candidate with transferable research skills. It is open to candidates from all PhD programs and is best suited to those in their first year of their PhD.

The main goal for the course is to equip the candidate with an overview of their research field through the process of reviewing crucial literature and evaluating different information sources. The candidate will learn how to make a literature review for the dissertation, including effective searching in relevant databases and methods for synthesising and administrating the literature.

Useful software for the review process will be introduced, including the reference management tool EndNote. The candidates will learn about the publishing process including the evaluation and selection of publishing channels. The course also aims to provide the candidates with knowledge about data management including data storage, archiving, protection, and sharing.

**Learning Outcomes:**

After completing this course, the candidate:

- can position own research in relation to a larger field of study through an extensive literature review
- has an awareness of useful software for organising and reviewing the literature
- can critically evaluate the quality of different publications and publishing channels
- has specific knowledge about procedures of peer review, how to get published internationally, criteria for ranking of journals and other publication channels and other forms of research evaluation
- has specific knowledge about how to increase the visibility of own research
- has specific knowledge about data storage and archiving, personal data, data protection, and data sharing in regard to national and international regulations and requirements

**Skills:**

After completing this course, the candidate:

- can use a variety of literature search techniques and critically review relevant sources of information in the field of study
- can use an electronic reference management system for correct referencing and citation techniques
- can critically analyse and evaluate different forms and rules of scientific communication and formulate an appropriate publishing strategy
- can make a data management plan for own research.

**General Competence:**

After completing this course, the candidate:

- can contribute to developing new knowledge by identifying gaps in the previous research, positioning own research in the field and engaging in the written dialogue with researchers in the field
- can communicate research and development work through recognized national and international channels, and by online networking
- can consider ethical challenges related to data collection, storage, publishing, and sharing.