

Taking Charge of your PhD Project

This workshop has been a success for over ten years and intends to help PhD-students to manage their project effectively by optimising the success factors (formal conditions, planning, social and expert network) and personal communication skills (trained with an actor).

Recent studies show that less than 10% of PhD students finish their project within 4 years in The Netherlands. At least 30% take longer than 5 years and some 15% quit the project altogether. The main reason for PhD students to suffer delays or to quit the project altogether appears to revolve around the relationship with their supervisor. Negotiating clarity about planning and supervision is therefore crucial, especially in the early stages of the PhD project. Subsequent management of the project mainly consists of interpersonal communication, making decisions, and time management. The workshop focuses on the success factors of PhD projects and the role of the supervisor. Sharing tips on planning, time management, and help-network will help you to make the project your own. With the aid of an actor we practice conversational skills involving feedback, conflicts, negotiations, and other subjects. This way, we provide a course that is both effective and fun!

About ElroyCOM Training

Msc. Mark van der Zwan is an industrial design engineer and senior trainer at ElroyCOM Training. ElroyCOM Training was founded in 2005 by Dr. E. Cocheret de la Morinière, and consists of more than 20 excellent and international trainers and training actors. For more information please refer to www.elroycom.nl.

Program Taking Charge of your PhD project

10.00 – 10.20	Introduction by the ElroyCOM trainer
10.20 – 10.45	Making acquaintance: drives and barriers in science
10.45 – 11.30	Formal conditions and clarifying working conditions
11.30 – 11.45	Coffee /tea break
11.45 – 12.30	Planning and time management
12.30 – 13.00	Professional and social help network
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch (provided by ElroyCOM)
14.00 – 14.30	Energizer and discussing cases
14.30 – 15.15	Giving and receiving feedback: theory and exercises
15.15 – 15.30	Break: refreshing drinks
15.30 – 16.15	Dealing with supervisors: negotiation and conflict
16.15 – 17.00	Conclusions and evaluation