BRITISH COUNCIL

RESEARCHER **CONNECT**

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COMMUNICATION SKILLS
FOR RESEARCHERS

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In an increasingly competitive and global market, researchers and the institutions they represent need to communicate their research effectively to an international audience.

Researchers need the communication skills to enable them to publish in international journals and present at conferences in English; apply for funding to national and international bodies; communicate with the wider public and policy-makers; and build international collaborations to further their research.

The British Council has developed the Researcher Connect training course to match the needs of researchers, helping them to operate internationally.

What is Researcher Connect?
Researcher Connect is a series of short interactive modules for researchers at any stage of their career and from any academic discipline. It focuses on the development of excellent communication skills using English language in international, multi-cultural contexts. It is appropriate for B2 (Upper Intermediate) level learners and above, and will enable learners to communicate their research effectively with a range of audiences in appropriate academic and/or professional styles.

Researcher Connect is available as a series of modules delivered in workshop format by experienced trainers. In addition we are building an online learner community seeded with related activities and resources.

It is available globally for Higher Education and Research clients through participating British Council country offices.

Why choose Researcher Connect?
Researcher Connect has been built on extensive global market research, and successfully run in Europe, North Africa and South Asia. Researcher Connect is specifically designed for academic researchers to develop the professional skills required to better communicate their work, leading to:

- improved performance in publishing and presenting
- stronger international and private sector collaborations
- increased employability

For your institute, this could mean:

- Stronger representation at conferences
- Increased publication rates
- Higher quality funding applications
- Stronger international reputation and ranking

We currently offer the following short modules:

Know Your Audience (KYA) – 2 hours
The foundation to all Researcher Connect modules, KYA introduces the Researcher Connect approach, and builds awareness essential to all subsequent modules.

Better Presentations (BP) – 1.5 days
A highly interactive module where learners build critical awareness and reflective skills, as well as techniques for the use of voice, body language and presentation structure, through the creation and delivery of their own oral presentations. If required, learners then go on to create posters on the presentation theme.

Writing for Publication: basics (WfPb) – 1 day
This module uses the Researcher Connect approach to critically analyse the essentials of academic writing, and identify, critique and develop the learners' own writing style through acquisition of tactics, tools and relevant language techniques.

Effective Emails (EE) – 2 to 3 hours
EE starts with an overview of the various functions of emails, then moves on to tone, formality, structure and standard phrases to create emails that work.

Professional Proposals (PP) – 1 day
Working with business style English writing techniques PP introduces some essential tools (including project planning) and puts these into practice through team-led development of a funding proposal.

Abstracts (ABS) – 3 hours
Enables learners to become critical readers and writers of abstracts through review and practice, using techniques and styles introduced throughout the course.

Module selection
We have a variety of Researcher Connect packages available depending on which skills you would like to focus on for your researchers (presentation, writing or a combination of both), and on your time and budget. You can also choose to select the full list of modules, or only those of particular interest on an individual basis*. Modules can be combined under an intensive workshop or can be spread over a longer period.

	Packages		
Modules	RC Presentations	RC Writing	RC Total
Know Your Audience	●	●	●
Effective Emails	◐	◐	◐
Better Presentations	○		○
Writing for Publication: basics		○	○
Professional Proposals		○	○
Abstracts	○		○

Key
● Compulsory foundation module
◐ Recommended optional module
○ Package module

Numbers of participants
Workshops are for up to 20 researchers from any discipline (including a mixture of disciplines) and at any stage in their career.

Trainers
We have a cohort of experienced UK and local trainers who have been trained to deliver the Researcher Connect course.

Certification
A certificate of completion will be given to each participant to demonstrate their attendance at the course.

Pricing
Researcher Connect is competitively priced, and the overall cost will depend upon the package of modules selected.

For further information on pricing and running a Researcher Connect course, please contact your local British Council office.

*Know Your Audience is the foundation to all Researcher Connect modules, and must be completed in all courses.

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