



Science Education: MODEST Courses for Doctoral Students in “Communication and Cooperation” and “Research”

In December 2020, two virtual events were arranged and carried out by the Erasmus+ MODEST project (<https://www.emodest.eu>) to report status/ progress in development of courses for doctoral students for the Strand-C “Communication and Cooperation” (8 December) and Strand-A “Research” (15 December). The PhD courses in development include the following: C1 “Commercialization of Research”, C2 “Personal Development”, C3 “Complexity”, C4 “Sustainable Development and Global Challenges of 21st century”; A1 “ Research methodology and research design”, A2 “Project writing, project management, and funding sources”, A3 “Presentation skills, writing scientific papers”, A4 “Research ethics, Intellectual property rights and personal data protection”, A5 “3I” - interdisciplinarity, interculturality, internationalization in research”.

The events were co-hosted by the MODEST partners - University of Helsinki in collaboration with Belarusian (Yanka Kupala State University Grodno), Russian (Moscow State University of Geodesy and Cartography, Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology) and UK (Brunel University London) Universities. In total, more than 50 (30) and more than 70 (40) participants attended the Strand C and A courses presentations (virtual rooms for courses discussions), respectively. Attendees included not only colleagues from the 14 MODEST Universities, but also participants from other organizations interested in doctoral education in science. The participants were from more than 30 different Universities/ Institutes/ Organizations from Armenia, Belarus, Finland, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, and UK.

The targeted groups included professors, teachers, universities staff, researchers, PhD students, young researchers. Feedbacks and comments on presented MODEST courses from the virtual events participants, and especially PhD students, were very welcome. The presented courses were also evaluated by participants through web-questionnaires (with statistics summaries). Questionnaires included grading/ scoring on each course aims and content, target groups and prerequisites, learning outcomes, workload and grades, teaching and learning methods, assessment methods and criteria, as well as it was possible to include additional remarks and comments to the presented courses. Both events for Strands A & C included also discussions in separate virtual rooms for each course, and these were followed by summaries presented by each room moderator. All these comments, remarks, suggestions will be used for further improvements of the MODEST courses.

Delivered presentations (slides, videos, and summaries) to be available for the Strand-C at: <https://www.emodest.eu/index.php/meetings/18-phd-courses-development-for-strand-c-communication-and-cooperation> & for the Strand-A at: <https://www.emodest.eu/index.php/meetings/19-meeting-on-phd-course-development-strand-a-research>

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