Communicate Your Research

Are you on the job market or getting ready to enter the job market?

This Spring Quarter, UChicagoGRAD and the Chicago Center for Teaching (CCT) will present the first annual “Communicate Your Research,” a program designed to help graduate students communicate their research effectively to non-specialist audiences. The program will have two independent sections, one each for Humanities and the Sciences (in 2016, the Sciences section of the program will be open only to BSD and IME). Participants will take part in professional training events as well as one-on-one sessions with the GRAD Talk oral communications consultants. At the end of the program, students will record a 3-minute video in which they discuss their research. Students will also have the option to enter their videos to a competition.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

An elevator pitch is 30 seconds long. However, in most interviews for jobs in academia, industry, nonprofits, and government, you’ll need to be able to speak about your research for around three minutes. This program is your opportunity to start practicing this short genre!

You will receive professional development: 4 group sessions throughout the quarter and one-on-one consultations with GRADTalk oral communications consultants.

At the end of the program you’ll have a short “video abstract/academic business card” which you’ll be able to link to your electronic cover letters, CV’s, online accounts (LinkedIn), etc. All competition participants will receive written feedback from a diverse panel regarding the efficacy of their video.

There will be prizes!

WHAT WE ASK FROM YOU:

To attend, write a short passage (fewer than 250 words) about why you want to be a part of this program. Send your paragraph to Ilanit Loewy Shacham at ilanits@uchicago.edu by March 28, 2016. Space is limited so we may not be able to accept all applicants. All applicants will be notified by April 1 whether they are accepted. At this point we will give priority to students who are advanced in their respective programs.

Attend four, hour-long group meetings: ALL MEETINGS WILL TAKE PLACE from 12-1pm

Session 1, April 4: Info Session and then workshop on self/audience
Session 2, April 5: Building your Narrative
Session 3, April 6: Improv/Stage Presence
Session 4, April 26: Building your Final Product

Additional Information and Timelines

April 6-25 participants will be asked to create their script and meet with GRADTalk consultants.

April 30: Draft Video Due
First week of May: Oral Communication Consultants will offer feedback on video submissions. Throughout the month of May, participants will be asked to revise their videos.

May 27: Final Video Due
Participants will be given the option to submit their videos to a competition, the results will be announced on June 1. Written feedback on competition entries will be given by the end of June.