

ERUA-VIADRINA Research Week at the European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder)

5–9 October 2026



EUROPA-UNIVERSITÄT
VIADRINA
FRANKFURT (ODER)

With funding from the:



Federal Ministry
of Research, Technology
and Space



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

ONLINE PREPARATION

Pitch Your Research: Communicating Your Expertise with Confidence

Trainer: Hendrik Peters | 11 & 25 September 2026 | 10:00 AM–12:00 PM CET | Online via Zoom

MONDAY			5 October 2026
TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER / TRAINER	LOCATION
2:00–3:00 PM	Welcome & Introduction to Viadrina	Prof. Dr. Brömmelmeyer Dr. Sandra Evans (video) Sara Bonin	Logensaal (LH 101)
3:00–3:30 PM	Coffee Break		
3:30–5:00 PM	Meet, Pitch & Connect	Klaudia Kazana	
5:15–6:45 PM	Keynote & Discussion: Care Work as an Epistemological and Structural Challenge for Academia	Dr. Lena Eckert	
7:00 PM	Opening Buffet		

TUESDAY			6 October 2026
TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER / TRAINER	LOCATION
9:00 AM–12:00 PM	Managing Research Projects: A Comprehensive Guide	Anke Kautz	AM 02
1:00–4:00 PM	AI Tools for Research and Scientific Writing	Dr. Dorothee Kraus	AM 02
4:30–6:30 PM	Interdisciplinary Research Seminar on the Urban History and Development of Frankfurt (Oder)	Dr. Andreas Bahr	AM 103
6:30 PM	Dinner		

WEDNESDAY			7 October 2026
TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER / TRAINER	LOCATION
9:00 AM–12:00 PM	Research Ethics and Responsible Conduct of Research	Dr. Michael Schöner	AM 02
1:00–4:00 PM	Make Yourself Heard – Voice, Body, and Storytelling for Impactful Communication	Francesca Carlin	AM 02
4:30–7:00 PM	Meet the Viadrina Researchers	Sara Bonin	Collegium Polonicum, Room 13
7:00 PM	Buffet		

THURSDAY			8 October 2026
TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER / TRAINER	LOCATION
9:00 AM–12:00 PM	Your Research Canvas – Exploring the Potential of Your Research	Anja Rilcke & Ulrike Käfer	AM 02
1:00–4:00 PM	Resilient Research and a Good Enough Plan	Dr. Ulrike Schneeberg	AM 02
4:30–6:30 PM	Social Event		
7:00 PM	Dinner		

FRIDAY			9 October 2026
TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER / TRAINER	LOCATION
9:00 AM–12:00 PM	Funding Opportunities and Key Aspects of Grant Proposal Writing	Dr. Sabine Preusse	AM 02
12:30 PM	Closing Ceremony & Lunch at the University Cafeteria	Sara Bonin Klaudia Kazana	Senatssaal



Detailed Description of the Program

ONLINE PREPARATION

Pitch Your Research: Communicating Your Expertise with Confidence

WHEN	11 & 25 September 2026, 10:00 AM–12:00 PM CET
WHERE	Online via Zoom
TRAINER	Hendrik Peters

ABOUT THE SESSION

Pitch Your Research: Communicating Your Expertise with Confidence

How do you present your research clearly, confidently, and convincingly—whether in front of funding bodies, collaboration partners, or at academic events?

This interactive online pitch training is designed to help you develop a compelling and authentic pitch for your academic work. Together, we will explore how to communicate complex ideas in a clear and engaging way while strengthening your presence and confidence.

Across two hands-on sessions, you will work on your own individual pitch and receive practical tools, structured feedback, and valuable insights on effective communication.

Topics include:

- Building a clear and impactful pitch structure
- Communicating your research to different audiences
- Creating strong openings that capture attention
- Using voice, pace, and presence effectively
- Strengthening verbal, nonverbal, and paraverbal communication
- Practicing and refining your pitch in a supportive environment

The training combines short theoretical inputs with practical exercises, reflection, and real-time feedback.

Whether you want to present your research at conferences, apply for funding, or communicate your ideas more confidently in professional settings—this workshop will help you pitch with clarity, authenticity, and impact.

Meet, Pitch & Connect

WHEN	Monday, 5 October 2026 3:30–5:00 PM
WHERE	Logensaal (LH 101)
FACILITATOR	Klaudia Kazana
ABOUT THE SESSION	
Get to know fellow researchers, introduce your research in a short pitch, exchange perspectives and ideas, and build connections across disciplines and institutions.	

Keynote & Discussion: Care Work as an Epistemological and Structural Challenge for Academia

WHEN	Monday, 5 October 2026 5:15–6:45 PM
WHERE	Logensaal (LH 101)
SPEAKER	Dr. Lena Eckert
ABOUT THE SESSION	
Academic careers are structured around an implicit norm: the scholar freed from care. This keynote examines how unpaid care work, which is still disproportionately performed by women, functions as a structural mechanism of exclusion in academia. Concepts such as the “leaky pipeline” and the “glass ceiling” must be extended by the “maternal wall” in order to capture care status as an intersectional dimension. Drawing on current research in gender studies, organizational sociology, and care ethics, the keynote argues that individual resilience strategies and mentoring programs are insufficient responses to structural inequality. What is needed are institutional transformations—in appointment procedures, evaluation criteria, time cultures, and the distribution of invisible academic labor. The talk closes by presenting pathways forward at the level of policy levers and structural interventions through which change in academia becomes possible.	

Managing Research Projects: A Comprehensive Guide

WHEN	Tuesday, 6 October 2026 9:00 AM–12:00 PM
WHERE	AM 02
TRAINER	Anke Kautz

ABOUT THE SESSION

Conducting a doctoral project requires more than academic expertise—it demands the ability to plan, organize, and steer a complex, multi-year research endeavor. This workshop offers doctoral researchers a short introduction to practical project-management skills tailored to the demands of academic research.

The workshop introduces core project-management principles and translates them into methods that work within the academic environment. Participants will also gain an initial understanding of strategies for managing supervisory relationships and balancing competing responsibilities in research, teaching, and personal life.

By the end of the workshop, participants will:

- understand key project-management concepts and how they apply to doctoral research
- be able to create a clear project structure with achievable milestones
- know about strategies for planning, tracking, and adapting their project timeline.

AI Tools for Research and Scientific Writing

WHEN	Tuesday, 6 October 2026 1:00–4:00 PM
WHERE	AM 02
TRAINER	Dr. Dorothee Kraus

ABOUT THE SESSION

In the workshop AI Tools for Research and Scientific Writing, we will address and explore three areas within the broader context of using AI in the academic writing process. First, we will revisit five stages of the writing process and explore how AI tools can be used effectively at each stage. No prior experience with AI tools or existing accounts is required to participate in the workshop. Second, we will try out different tools and ways of using AI in the academic writing process. If you already have experience using AI, you are welcome to bring this into the discussion. Third, we will discuss the question of how to use AI tools in the writing process ethically. You will also get to know a framework to navigate ethical concerns.

Research Ethics and Responsible Conduct of Research

WHEN	Wednesday, 7 October 2026 9:00 AM–12:00 PM
WHERE	AM 02
TRAINER	Dr. Michael Schöner

ABOUT THE SESSION

In its preamble, the DFG's Guidelines for Safeguarding Good Scientific Practice state: "Scientific integrity forms the basis of trustworthy research." In this workshop you will learn about research ethics and how to conduct research responsibly. The workshop will raise awareness of the gray areas between good scientific practice and scientific misconduct. You will gain an overview of the most important national and international regulations and recommendations on good scientific practice. Particular attention will be paid to the topics of good scientific practice in handling research data (including misconduct such as falsification and fabrication of data) as well as publication and authorship (including plagiarism). This interactive and self-reflective workshop is designed to help you gain clarity about the common regulations, rights and obligations of good scientific practice in everyday research, become aware of the gray areas, develop strategies to deal with these gray areas, and inform you about where to turn with questions about and violations of scientific integrity.

Make Yourself Heard – Voice, Body, and Storytelling for Impactful Communication

WHEN	Wednesday, 7 October 2026 1:00–4:00 PM
WHERE	AM 02
TRAINER	Francesca Carlin

ABOUT THE SESSION

Great ideas deserve to be heard and remembered. In academia, strong communication can make a significant difference—whether you are presenting research, leading discussions, applying for funding, or building professional connections.

In this interactive workshop, participants will explore how voice, body language, and storytelling can strengthen their communication style and help them present their ideas with greater confidence, clarity, and impact. The session combines practical tools, reflection, and hands-on exercises in a supportive environment designed specifically for researchers and academics.

Meet the Viadrina Researchers

WHEN	Wednesday, 7 October 2026 4:30–7:00 PM
WHERE	Collegium Polonicum, Room 13
HOST	Sara Bonin

ABOUT THE SESSION

This event aims to foster academic exchange and explore potential collaborations among researchers within the European Reform University Alliance (ERUA) and the Viadrina community. The program includes short presentations on the research profiles of various Viadrina faculties, followed by a Q&A session and discussions. Additionally, the Early Career Researchers platform will be introduced as a resource for further collaboration and engagement. A standing reception will provide further opportunities for informal networking and exchange.

THURSDAY 8 October 2026

Your Research Canvas – Exploring the Potential of Your Research

WHEN	Thursday, 8 October 2026 9:00 AM–12:00 PM
WHERE	AM 02
TRAINERS	Anja Rillcke & Ulrike Käfer

ABOUT THE SESSION

This workshop will introduce the Research Canvas as a tool for reflecting on the potential of one's own research topic or idea. Participants will explore possible user groups, stakeholders, and networks that could benefit from their research and assess the broader impact of their work by identifying potential users and areas of application.

Through guided brainstorming and peer exchange, participants will develop and refine use cases based on their research projects and professional networks, translating academic insights into potential real-world applications.

Resilient Research and a Good Enough Plan

WHEN	Thursday, 8 October 2026 1:00–4:00 PM
WHERE	AM 02
TRAINER	Dr. Ulrike Schneeberg

ABOUT THE SESSION

Early career research and mental health may often seem mutually exclusive. And although no workshop in the world will change the challenging working conditions for researchers on limited contracts, this workshop promises to create a space for you to explore two powerful questions—both with the goal to improve your clarity and peace of mind:

1. What do I want? In small-group discussions, you'll define your midterm career goals, break them into actionable steps, and refine your priorities through peer exchange—whether in academia or beyond.
2. What do I need? Achieving your career goals sustainably requires emotional intelligence, so you will explore Nonviolent Communication (NVC) tools to make your self-care and time management more effective.

FRIDAY 9 October 2026

Funding Opportunities and Key Aspects of Grant Proposal Writing

WHEN	Friday, 9 October 2026 9:00 AM–12:00 PM
WHERE	AM 02
TRAINER	Dr. Sabine Preusse

ABOUT THE SESSION

Successful grant proposal writing is a fundamental basis for a career in research. This workshop focuses on key aspects of proposal writing and funding opportunities.

Participants will learn:

- how to design attractive proposals from the funding agencies' perspective
- how to increase the scientific quality of their research
- how to communicate complex ideas clearly and convincingly

The workshop combines presentations, group work, and individual work and is aimed at researchers with little or no experience in grant proposal writing.