

## Professional Skills for Scientists (C004519)

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits 4.0**                      **Study time 120 h**

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2024-2025**

A (Year)	Dutch, English	Gent	group work	0.0h
			seminar	0.0h
			lecture	0.0h
			independent work	0.0h

**Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025**

Smet, Philippe	WE04	lecturer-in-charge
Caluwaerts, Steven	WE05	co-lecturer

**Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025**

	crdts	offering
<a href="#">Master of Science in Teaching in Science and Technology(main subject Physics and Astronomy)</a>	4	A
<a href="#">Master of Science in Physics and Astronomy</a>	4	A
<a href="#">Master of Science in Physics and Astronomy</a>	4	A

**Teaching languages**

English, Dutch

**Keywords**

scientific communication, scientific reporting, media training, scientific debating, applying for jobs, science after graduation, grant writing.

**Position of the course**

The following topics will be covered:

- Physics and society
- Scientific communication
- Active participation to panel debates
- Media awareness and use of social media
- Preparation for the job market.

**Contents**

1. The lectures will focus on:

- (a)The role of physics in society and global challenges
- (b)Different formats of scientific communication
- (c)Overview and preparation towards the job market (e.g. overview of funding sources, CV writing)
- (d)Public communication (e.g. use and awareness of social media, communication to target groups)

2. The practical exercises comprise:

- (a)Active participation to panel debates with preparatory work
- (b)Writing of a press text dealing with physics
- (c)Job vacancy search and application (CV + cover letter)

The teaching activities will be followed by an info session on 'Physicists on the job market', where alumni physics share their experience.

**Initial competences**

Basic physics (Bachelor level)

**Final competences**

- 1 The student will have gained knowledge and understanding of the role of physics in society and global challenges.
- 2 Students will know and gain experience in writing a job application letter and a CV, and acquire know-how to match with specific job vacancy.
- 3 Students will be able to communicate orally (with written preparation) personal statements in a scientific manner and defend them during a debate.
- 4 Students will frame a physics topic within a broader scientific, but also societal and socio-economic context, using literature from the different domains.
- 5 Students will communicate scientific research to a broader audience by means of a press release (of a physics topic).

#### **Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

#### **Conditions for exam contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

#### **Teaching methods**

Group work, Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

#### **Extra information on the teaching methods**

This course comprises lectures, as well as interactive seminars (panel discussion in debate format) and autonomous assignments (writing a press text, a CV and an application letter).

#### **Study material**

Type: Slides

Name: Slides

Indicative price: € 5

Optional: no

Language : English

Number of Slides : 100

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : Yes

Available in the Library : No

Available through Student Association : No

Additional information: 5 euros is for the cost of printing the slides (which is not compulsory). Slides are also available digitally.

#### **References**

#### **Course content-related study coaching**

#### **Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous assessment

#### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period**

Written assessment with open-ended questions

#### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period**

Written assessment with open-ended questions

#### **Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

Assignment

#### **Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

examination during the second examination period is possible

#### **Calculation of the examination mark**

- 25% Skills test
- 75% Continuous assessment and assignments.