UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI CATANIA

DOTTORATO DI RICERCA IN SCIENZA DEI MATERIALI E NANOTECNOLOGIE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Name	What's Next? Building a Competitive Scientific Profile: CVs, Grants and Career Applications
Teacher(s)	Melanie Micali e Martina Ussia
Email	melanie.micali@st.it – martina.ussia@cnr.it
CFU* (lecture+lab [h])	(12+0)
Assessment **	Written - individual CV and/or grant-writing exercise developed and reviewed during the course

* 1 CFU = 6 h lectures OR 12 h in lab OR a combination (3h lectures+6h lab, or 4+4, or 2+8, …)

** it must be within the course duration. Please, indicate: written, oral, by slide presentation.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

What comes after your PhD or research experience? How can you effectively communicate your scientific profile to potential employers, evaluators, and funding agencies? And what makes a CV or grant application stand out in a competitive selection process?
This highly practical course is designed to provide students with the tools and strategies needed to present their scientific profile effectively and to approach career and funding applications with greater confidence.
The course combines short lectures, real-world examples, interactive exercises. A substantial part of the course will be dedicated to CV and grant-writing, during which students will work on their own materials and receive direct feedback from the instructors and peers.
By the end of the course, students will not only understand how successful applications are structured, but will have already started developing application materials that they can use for their next career or funding opportunity.

PROGRAM

Module 1 - Navigating the Funding Landscape (2 h)
Overview of national and European funding opportunities: FIS, PRIN, Horizon Europe, MSCA, ERC and EIC. Eligibility, career stage and evaluation criteria.

Module 2 - Finding the Right Grant (2 h) - Interactive Workshop
Practical analysis of funding calls: eligibility, objectives, evaluation criteria and matching funding opportunities with research profiles and ideas.

Module 3 - Building an Effective CV (2 h)
CV preparation for industrial, academic and grant applications. Tailoring your profile, highlighting achievements and communicating transferable skills.

Module 4 - CV Clinic (2 h) - Interactive Workshop
Hands-on preparation and revision of students' CVs, including peer review and instructor feedback.

Module 5 - Writing a Competitive Grant Proposal (2 h)
Key elements of grant writing: research objectives, novelty, excellence, impact, feasibility and effective scientific storytelling.

Module 6 - Grant Writing (2 h) - Interactive Workshop
Hands-on writing and evaluation of selected grant sections, followed by peer review, discussion and instructor feedback.

REFERENCES

https://erc.europa.eu/apply-grant

https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/

https://prin.mur.gov.it/

https://fis-submission.mur.gov.it/