



Presentation Skills Workshop

ESHG 2026 Conference Speakers

19th May 2026 10:00-13:30CEST

Online delivery on Zoom

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With the support of the ESHG Education Committee

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1. Introduction and workshop objectives

Foundational concepts for delivering effective presentations will be covered. Participants will work in small groups to deliver their presentations and reflect on any changes needed based on the feedback received from facilitators and peers and on their own insights and reflections. In addition to skills for creating effective presentations, this workshop will allow participants to start forming a community of practice with other conference speakers ahead of the Gothenburg conference.

Objectives of the workshop:

- Outline the key elements to delivering effective presentations
- Support the development of storytelling skills and audience engagement
- Craft a supportive environment for practicing presentation delivery skills

The workshop is aimed at people selected to present at the ESHG 2026 conference, and who have little (or no) experience of delivering scientific presentations, or who would like to refresh their presentation skills for a conference setting.

2. Learning outcomes

By the end of the workshop, participants will be able to:

- Identify the elements that guide the delivery of good presentations
- Create an effective presentation for delivery at the ESHG conference and future events

3. Course format

Participants will attend an online workshop on Tuesday, 19th May 2026, from 10:00am to 13:30 CEST via Zoom. Learning requires participants to do work before, during, and after the workshop date.

Note that you will need a working microphone and camera for this workshop on a PC or laptop. When joining from a mobile phone, consider whether you will be able to share the screen while presenting. Choose a quiet space if you can, where you will be able to present and interact without interruptions. Please contact the organisers if you anticipate any technical difficulties and to discuss the possibility of alternative arrangements (e.g., submitting a pre-recorded presentation). Please also consider that the Zoom platform is unavailable in some geographical locations due to regulatory restrictions- do check with your institution if you are unsure.

Step 1: Before the workshop

The successful completion of this course requires careful reading of the tips for preparing your slides- see [Appendix 1](#).

You will need to prepare slides to present and receive feedback on. It will be more useful if the slides are already similar to what you will be aiming to present at the conference. Your presentation can be in formats other than PowerPoint (e.g., PDF or Word if you prefer). You will be given **9** minutes to deliver your presentation, so aim to prepare a maximum of 10 slides. You may obscure or leave out any results that you do not want to share ahead of the conference. All participants agree that the materials presented are the property of the presenters and materials must not be recorded, captured or shared outside of the workshop.

You can pre-record your presentation, for example, if you think your internet connection is not stable enough to have your camera on during the workshop.

Step 2: During the workshop

The workshop is interactive with a mixture of activities in large or small groups. We will ask participants to engage in the discussions, ask questions and provide feedback. You can use the chat, your microphone or the online forms to do this.

It is anticipated that presentations will be delivered in groups of 6 participants supported by 2 facilitators. Peer learning means that you can learn from your colleagues and you are encouraged to listen actively and to provide feedback on the presentations of others to contribute to everyone's learning. It is important that we consider cultural differences when communicating to others and we pledge to engage with honesty, kindness and respect. We are committed to adopting the mindset of positive intent, which in practice means that we assume that everyone who interacts with us has good intentions and their comments are meant to support our growth.

Agenda (subject to change)

Time (CET)	Topic
10:00-10:15	Welcome and setting the scene
10:15-10:30	Lecture: Tips for effective presentations
10:30-11:00	Lecture: Storytelling, engaging the audience and dealing with questions
11:00-11:45	Presentations in break-out rooms: Group A
11:45-12:00	Comfort break
12:00-12:45	Presentations in break-out rooms: Group B
12:45-13:00	Group de-brief- What have we learnt?
13:00-13:10	Group discussion and reflections: What next?
13:10-13:25	Q & A session
13:25-13:30	Workshop evaluation and close

Step 3: After the workshop

Reflect on the feedback received and plan any changes/refinements to your presentation. Practice the final presentation and involve colleagues in your department, or family and friends if you can, to keep refining your presentation skills. Remember: plan, prepare, practice and present! We look forward to seeing you in Gothenburg!

References and resources:

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/become-a-better-presenter>

Fleming 2018, <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-018-07780-5>

Acknowledgements:

Thank you to the workshop facilitators for kindly donating their time and expertise. Special thanks to Sally Ann Lynch, Hans Hennies, Ren Khaw, Kathleen Gorman and John Fitzsimons for supporting the development and delivery of the first edition of this course.

This initiative is supported by the ESHG Education Committee and the ESHG Office.

Appendix 1

This is the guidance for preparing your presentation for the workshop. Before finalizing the slides for the conference, ensure you read the guidance sent to you by the ESHG office as there will be additional information therein, for example on the size of the files.

- Format: 16:9 landscape
- File type: PowerPoint .pptx or PDF
- Font size: minimum 20 points for easy viewing recommended
- Fonts: Use a clear and legible font, e.g. Arial or Calibri
- Design: Use simple designs with balanced use of colour (avoid red, ensure high contrast between text and background colours)
- Do not use too much text in the slides
- Provide visual aids such as images, diagrams and videos to support text.
- Provide a clear organisation and logical structure and break up the presentation into manageable sections with clear headings and transitions
- When delivering your presentation, aim to speak at a calm pace, with clarity and considering that most of the attendees have English as a second language. Consider carefully what to include in the presentation and focus on quality over quantity.