

Communication and Work Culture in Germany: A Seminar for International Academics

Date: **1 April 2026**

Venue: KiezLab, Tamara-Danz-Str. 13, 2nd floor, 10243 Berlin

Trainer: Dr. Philippa Cook

PROGRAM

■ Morning

09:30 – 11:00

- Culture(s) and Interculturality
- Dealing with uncertain and unfamiliar situations

Topics: What do we understand by “culture”, what “cultures’ do we embody and what are our own experiences so far in Germany? What do we have in common with our colleagues, where can we perceive differences? Discovering tools and strategies to navigate uncertainty

11:00 – 11:15 *Break*

11:15 – 12:45

- Different communication styles and norms
- Handling communicative interactions at work

Topics: Awareness of different degrees of explicitness in communication style, getting familiar with norms and customs in written and spoken communication in workplaces with a focus on academia, managing delicate or difficult conversations appropriately and professionally (e.g. seeking/giving feedback, making requests, expressing discomfort, flagging up or resolving conflicts)

12:45 – 13:45 *Lunch Break*

■ Afternoon

13:45 – 15:00

- Work culture
- Navigating the multicultural workplace with confidence

Topics: fostering successful teamwork, cooperation and collaboration in culturally diverse groups, understanding individual responsibilities, expectations and roles in academic settings, awareness of different approaches to leadership and hierarchies (power), negotiating agreements and commitments in academic contexts, developing competencies for fruitful intercultural team interaction and collaboration

15:00 – 15:15 *Break*

15:15 – 16:30

- Transfer to everyday settings and genuine experiences
- Analysis and reflection on Case Studies, Discussion based on interviews conducted with international academics from Philippa Cook's consultancy practice.

Topics: Takeways, Key learnings, Space for open questions and peer exchange, network