Project management for PhD candidates
Tips & tools to simplify your daily life

Context:
The thesis is a project. In order to optimize its management, why not use some management tools that are applied in other sectors? These tools can provide a gain in efficiency and productivity while developing the professional skills that will be valuable in any career.

Points covered:
- Essentials of Project Management
- Project management methodology and basic tools associated (planning, prioritization, risk measurement...)
- Understanding the importance of communication at each stage of the project
- Prepare, plan, manage and conclude your thesis in project management mode

The association Focus Research brings together researchers from different disciplines and different universities in order to enhance communication among researchers. They organize events, publish an annual newspaper and raise awareness on science policy issues.

The project Doctorat.be is an initiative of Focus Research to promote doctoral training and increase the employability of researchers. We provide services to researchers before, during and after the thesis: trainings, employment coaching, publication of job offers in and outside of the academic and maintaining a resume database online for doctors, searchable by potential employers.

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The facilitators

Laurence Theunis
After a PhD in biology (biodiversity study), Laurence moved towards scientific communication as a project manager at Inforsciences (ULB). Raising curiosity and passion among the young people was a very stimulating challenge. After working with the younger, Laurence found in her missions as project manager for Focus Research significant challenges to improve the employability of researchers on the job market. She is passionate about meeting the different stakeholders and about giving individual and group support to doctoral candidates and doctors.

Aina Astudillo Fernandez
After her degree in Biology and Paedagogy, Aina has worked in scientific communication, while undertaking a PhD in mathematical modeling of Biological phenomena. Her current work as research assistant at Focus Research combines her predilection for communication and training with her desire to contribute to the promotion of research in Belgium.

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