SISSA - Soft skills training activities
YEAR 2026 PROPOSALS

TITLE	CATEGORY	TIPOLOGY	REFERENCE AREA/OFFICE	CONTACT	START DATE	END DATE	ABSTRACT
SISSA Club Language courses	Language and Digital Skills Development	Training course	SISSA Club	lcortell@sissa.it	01/01/2026	31/12/2026	Presently this is the language courses: Tuesday 18-19.30: french beginners and italian absolute beginners Wednesday 17.30-19.00: german beginners Thursday 17.30-19.30: italian advanced, 18.00-19.30 italian intermediate. Furthermore every Wednesday from 17:30 to 18:30 there is the "Languange Lounge", a tandem language learning reunion where partecipants can practice their conversation skills with native speakes.
SISSA Talent Valorisation One-to-one coaching	Talent Valorisation	Coaching	Valorisation & Innovation Office	valorisation@sissa.it	01/01/2026	31/12/2026	It is a tailor made coaching session where the coach and the coachee work together to get a clearer vision of potential career paths and goals, in order to prepare the coachee for job interviews, to review their CV and/or resumè and to learn personal branding techniques.
Sissa for Schools	Science Communication	Training course	SISSA Medialab	visite_scuole@medialab.sissa.it	01/01/2026	31/12/2026	S4S is the guided tour programme for schools offered by SISSA. It is based on interactive activities, small experiments and the exploration of SISSA in small groups together with students and postdocs. PhD students will have the opportunity to experience their skills in informal education and science communication.
SISSA SciCom Masterclasses (SSCM)	Science Communication	Training course	ILAS and SISSA Medialab	info@masterclasses.sissa.it	01/01/2026	31/12/2026	SISSA and SISSA Medialab work together to offer young researchers high-quality courses for public engagement in STEAM. Training courses are planned, in-presence and online, throughout the year. Courses include: Communicating with the media and the public; Peer to peer science communication; Public Engagement - How to facilitate the dialogue with various audience; Science on air: how to develop a podcast and other advanced modules. *For SISSA students: special 50% discount for tailor-made courses.* *Interested students can deduct the cost from their III and IV year training contribution, from their Area budgets or from the resources of Groups or individual PIs.* Find out more: masterclasses.sissa.it
Communicating knowledge: tools and practices for university orientation	Science Communication	Training course	Communications Office / SISSA Medialab	info@masterclasses.sissa.it - cstera@sissa.it	11/02/2026	13/02/2026	A 3-day course aimed at undergraduate and PhD students of the EFC network, including SISSA, for a total of 20 participants at SISSA. The course is designed to provide useful tools to participate in university orientation initiatives during which they will engage students in their final years of the secondary school in various activities. Through lectures and practical activities they will have the opportunity to explore different aspects of science communication, to improve their public speaking skills and to learn basic elements of digital communication and public engagement. Location: SISSA. www.educatingfuturecitizens.com
Science Communication |PATTERN training activity	Science Communication	Training course	ILAS - Research and International Relations Office - Communications Office	pattern@sissa.it	19/01/2026	31/03/2026	Self-paced course By SISSA An on-demand online course on science communication techniques, delivered by SISSA trainers, will be available for individual participation from January to March. The course will cover the following topics: Introduction to Science Communication, Writing for the Media, Talking with the Media, Communicating with Policymakers. To stard the self-paced course: https://openplato.eu/enrol/index.php?id=548
Dissemination and Exploitation of research results |PATTERN training activity	Disseminationa and Research Management	Training course	ILAS - Research and International Relations Office - Communications Office	pattern@sissa.it	13/02/2026	13/02/2026	Online A two-hour webinar will guide you through how to plan and manage communication and dissemination activities in Horizon Europe projects. Info and registration: https://www.valorisation.sissa.it/pattern

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Scientific writing and communication	Science communication / Dissemination	Training course	Neuroscience Area	epiasini@sissa.it	23/02/2026	26/02/2026	Teacher: Valentina Parma (external teacher, Monell Chemical Senses Center) About 10 h - Every day from 2pm to 5pm. Location SISSA Room 139 Description: The aim of the course is to help improve one's scientific dissemination abilities, including writing, poster presentations, and oral presentations, by introducing rules of style to communicate in a concise, clear, and convincing way and rules for effective slide and poster preparation and speech delivery. The course is based on similar ones by Peter Kramer, Stuart Anstis, and Ed Hubbard and incorporates advice by Philip Bourne. For this course you are required to submit in pdf a poster designed by you and a 5-minute slide presentation on your project of choice by Feb 17, 2025. You can send them directly to the teacher by email at vparma@monell.org . The first part of the course (Days 1 and 2) will be frontal lectures, while the second part (Days 3 and 4) will require active participation from the attendees for a poster and oral presentation.
Scientific programming: A crash course	Digital Skills Development	Training course	Neuroscience Area	epiasini@sissa.it	02/03/2026	05/03/2026	Teacher: Jon Carr (external teacher) About 15 h - Every day from 2pm to 5pm. Location SISSA Room 139 Description: This course is intended for PhDs who have little to no experience with coding; however, it should also be suitable for people who've done a bit of coding before but who could nevertheless benefit from a refresher course. The course will cover programming basics, data analysis, plotting, and good practices/notions such as version control, open source, and properly documenting code. The course will be conducted mainly in Python.
Artificial Intelligence and Research	Ethics and Research Integrity / Digital Skills Development / Research Management and Governance	Training course	SISSA Medialab	ai_and_research@medialab.sissa.it.	03/03/2026	10/03/2026	An official SISSA training initiative addressed to PhD students and research staff, offered as part of the Educating Future Citizens (EFC) network. The course is designed to illustrate the opportunities that AI technologies offer in supporting and enhancing the research workflow and to provide guidance on the appropriate and responsible use of artificial intelligence in research activities. It is particularly relevant for those who plan to use – or are already using – generative AI tools made available by SISSA in their research activities. Info and registration https://educatingfuturecitizens.com/artificial-intelligence-and-research/
Peer-to-peer communication in STEM and SSH	Science communication / Dissemination	Training course	SISSA Medialab	info@masterclasses.sissa.it	09/03/2026	12/03/2026	The course is meant for STEM and SSH PhD students of the EFC network for a total of 50 participants. It consists of several training modules, some of which are aimed at all participants while others are specific to each group (STEM and SSH). During the plenary session an introduction to science communication will be provided, followed by an overview of scholarly publishing. The specific modules include both lectures and practical activities with a focus on different topics, e.g. research papers/proposals writing, techniques and strategies to prepare an effective presentation, social media communication and online personal branding. Location: Ce.U.B. Bertinoro (FC). www.educatingfuturecitizens.com

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Introduction to Statistics	Digital Skills Development	Workshop	Neuroscience Area	epiasini@sissa.it	13/04/2026	17/04/2026	Teacher: Giovanni Zanco, University of Siena About 15 h - every day in the afternoon (tentative dates - exact time TBC). Rooms 139/004/005 (details TBC) Description: The aim of this course is to introduce several basic concepts of statistics with wide applicability for empirical research. Rough syllabus: 1.Introduction 2.Basics of probability theory: random variables and their distributions, cumulative distribution functions, the central limit theorem. 3.Data presentation: indices, graphs. Dimensionality reduction and principal component analysis. 4.Parameter estimation based on samples. 5.Hypothesis testing: assumptions, results, examples. 6.Linear models and logistic linear models. 7.ANOVA and post hoc techniques Various examples will be illustrated using the software R.
Open access and research integrity	Ethics and Research Integrity / Intellectual Property and Open Science	Training course	SISSA Medialab		May 2026	May 2026	This training focuses on research integrity, current publishing policies, and AI-based tools used in scientific publishing. It provides participants with practical insights into responsible research practices and emerging technologies in editorial workflows. The programme also includes a two-hour interactive laboratory featuring a discussion game. Through this activity, participants explore the dynamics of scientific publishing and key aspects of open access in an engaging and collaborative way
How to deliver a successful seminar	Science communication / Dissemination	Training course	Physics Area	mussardo@sissa.it	Spring 2026 (date TBC)	Spring 2026 (date TBC)	
Perspectives on Mathematics and AI	Interdisciplinary, Multidisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Training / Digital Skills Development	Training course	Mathematics Area	lerario@sissa.it	13/07/2026	17/07/2026	
JOBFair - il job meeting delle scuole di eccellenza italiane	Talent Valorisation	Job Fair	Valorisation & Innovation Office	valorisation@sissa.it	Autumn 2026 (date TBC)	Autumn 2026 (date TBC)	The job meeting organised by the Italian Schools of Excellence and aimed at starting a direct interaction between leading Italian and International companies and the world of academic excellence, where students and postdocs will have the opportunity to have one-to-one meetings with companies. The JOBFair will be held in-person at Scuola Sant'Anna (Pisa).