

**CREST Online Training Course for Supervisors of
Doctoral Candidates at African Universities
- Invitation to Supervisors of DAAD Scholarship Holders**

This is about a course for supervisors of DAAD In-Country/In-Region scholarship holders. The DAAD will cover the participation fee. **Participants do not have to pay the course fee by themselves in advance.**

It is widely accepted that there is growing need for more African scholars and scientists to contribute to innovation and development on the African continent and to enhance Africa's participation in the knowledge economy. We have also witnessed huge increases in the numbers of doctoral enrolments and graduates at many African universities in recent years. As a result, the demand for well-prepared doctoral supervisors has also increased significantly.

To meet this new and growing demand for doctoral supervisors, the Centre for Research on Evaluation, Science and Technology (CREST) at Stellenbosch University has developed a fully online course for doctoral supervisors with financial support from the DAAD. Since 2018 more than 450 professors and lecturers affiliated to universities in Africa have completed the course.

The course addresses important topics such as the context and challenges related to doctoral education at African universities, the nature of the doctoral qualification, the relationship between the doctoral candidate and the supervisor, models of supervision, the guidance that the supervisor must give to a doctoral candidate throughout the doctoral process and more.

The next course, where a certain number of places are reserved for supervisors of DAAD scholarship holders, will commence on **7 August 2023, the coursework component will be completed on 8 October 2023, followed by a practical assignment due on 13 November 2023.**

Successful participants will receive a Certificate of Competence issued by Stellenbosch University, South Africa.

Applications for supervisors of DAAD In-Country/In-Region scholarship holders close on 12 June 2023.

For more information about the course and **to apply**, go the CREST web site, click on <http://www0.sun.ac.za/crest/dies-crest-online-training-course/>

Entry requirements

To be considered for the DAAD sponsored participation in the course, you must be employed by or affiliated with a DAAD partner institution within the In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme (www.daad.de/incountry-inregion), have a doctoral degree (or expect to receive your doctoral degree by the end of 2023), you have to supervise or co-supervise doctoral DAAD scholarship holders within the DAAD In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme (or be expected to do so before the end of 2023), and you need a letter of support from your head of department or dean confirming that you are or will be a supervisor in the DAAD programme. You also need to agree to the DAAD terms of participations (see the DAAD application form).

COMMENTS OF PARTICIPANTS ON THE BENEFITS OF THE CREST ONLINE TRAINING COURSE FOR DOCTORAL SUPERVISORS AT AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES

"I feel I am now ready to start supervising."

"I benefited from the entire range of the training. The six modules were quite insightful. The course was much deeper in content than I expected."

"The course is going to have an important impact on my work. I strongly feel that I made the right choice to enrol in this course. I have successfully influenced my university to enrol more academics on this course"

COMMENTS ON THE LEARNING MATERIAL

"The learning material provided is fantastic and fit for the purpose of the course, how to help us to become good supervisors."

COMMENTS ON THE FACILITATORS

"The facilitators are experts in the field of doctoral supervision, and they are aware of the current problems being experienced by supervisors in both face-to-face and distance learning platforms. The facilitators are very supportive and explain the objectives of each module at the beginning such that it becomes very easy to follow the tutorials. Relevant literature is recommended, and the activities allow us to reflect on our own work as supervisors in our own institutions."

"The facilitators are wonderful and have vast experience in training courses for supervisors of doctoral candidates at African universities. More so, they possess strong expertise and excellent knowledge in the field of postgraduate supervision."

"The facilitators responded to my questions and solved my queries on time."

"The facilitators were generally very competent, experienced and caring. I have been able to learn some qualities and attributes from them. Especially the way in which they simplify the teaching and learning approaches."

"The facilitators have designed all the modules in a highly interactive way and when you are working through the modules you feel the presence of the facilitator in the background. The video recordings at the opening of each module are very good ice-breakers for the modules."

COMMENTS ON THE ONLINE LEARNING

"Personally, this online course really suited me. You can work at your own pace, anytime and anywhere you want."

"The experience with the learning resources was good. The slides were laid out clearly. The overview of the module that was always given in the left-hand side panel was very useful. At the end of the course, it was very helpful to receive all the course materials well organized under its different modules once again. I was able to cross-check what I could have missed out or mixed up. The discussion board is excellent as one can go back to read the posting by fellow participants. The webinars are an additional plus."

"The online learning was good with different learning material provided including text, videos and the group discussions and exchange of different institutional material. Being my first online course, it has changed my

perception on online learning and is in many ways even more demanding, educative, interactive and enriching than the traditional face to face learning!"