



A National PhD School

Funded by the Norwegian Research Council

Run by a consortium of all faculties of Law and Humanities in the four major Norwegian universities, and the two major national theological institutions

Coordinated by the Faculty of Theology, University of Oslo

ATTR Guide for PhD Fellows

There are two formats for PhD and postdoc fellows to participate in ATTR seminars: with and without earning ECTS credits. The respective requirements for each of the two formats are specified below. Please note that ECTS is only possible for participants from within the European Union.

Participating in an ATTR seminar means engaging with interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary research. Different academic fields have specific traditions and standards. This implies challenges regarding giving and receiving feedback. Respondents should be respectful towards other fields, while at the same time trusting that their own field and personal expertise belongs in the cross-disciplinary conversation.

1. PhD Seminars

The seminars are meant to help developing writing and presentation skills, abilities to identify and critically discuss issues of method and analytical perspectives, and to help prepare for future work-life within and outside of the academia. They also provide opportunities to build interdisciplinary networks. The discussion, always in English, will primarily focus on methodological matters and interdisciplinary insights.

Each session lasts up to 75 minutes. The time is provisionally divided in this way:

- Presentation of PhD paper, 10–15 minutes
- Two prepared responses, 5–10 minutes each
- Open discussion for the remaining time

All participants (with or without ECTS credits) are expected to participate fully in the PhD seminars. That means, all will present a specimen from their ongoing research and all are assigned two papers to which they will respond. We aim to distribute the papers along with the list of groups/presenters/respondents approximately two weeks before the seminar.

Members are expected to have read all papers in their seminar group and to prepare written responses to the two designated presentations. These written responses are submitted to the ATTR administration in advance of the seminar – as a backup in case respondents have to be excused from attending. An updated version of the response would preferably be communicated in writing to the presenters after the seminar.

Please note that all PhD fellows must bring their laptop to the PhD seminars, so that the seminars may be converted to hybrid format if need be.

Presenting a paper

Your paper should not be too long, preferably between 15 and 25 pages, all inclusive. You should provide a precise abstract, and you may provide a “Reader’s Guide” informing your audience about the background for the paper and any theme for which you would appreciate feedback.

Web: <https://www.tf.uio.no/english/research/phd/research-schools/attr/> ; Mail: i.m.ausland@teologi.uio.no

Postal address: ATTR, Faculty of Theology, PO Box 1023 Blindern, N-035 Oslo, Norway

Street address: Blindernveien 9, 0371 Oslo



Points to consider for your oral presentation: Introduce the main points and challenges of your project, especially with regard to method. Time is limited; the more precise you are, the more time for valuable response. Consider timing your presentation before the seminar. If you wish to use a power point presentation or handouts, please contact the ATTR administration.

Offering a response

Please provide affirmative as well as critical comments as you see reasonable. If possible, be specific in your praise as well as in your challenges. Try to approach your interlocutor on her or his own terms, but also to establish an outside view of the presented paper. You are expected to focus on method and analytical approaches.

NB: Please submit the manuscript for your response to the ATTR office along a few days before the seminar!

2. Plenary sessions

PhD members earning ECTS credits are expected to read all mandatory reading assignments. Members participating without earning ECTS are exempt from the requirements, but they are still encouraged to engage with the literature and the themes of the presentations.

New: Short presentation in the closing session

PhD fellows earning ECTS credits are obliged to offer a 3 minutes presentation in the final plenary session. In this presentation you will comment on *the significance of the readings and the seminar presentations and discussions for your own research*. There will be a timing device in use, indicating when there is one minute left, and when your time is up. (Please note, there will be a different time slot for giving your evaluation of the seminar. This session is not about the seminar, but about its relevance for your research.)

After the seminar, you may edit the manuscript for your presentation before you send it to Ina Ausland (i.m.ausland@teologi.uio.no). Certificates for earning ECTS points depend on having made this presentation and presented it in written form to the ATTR.