

Joint Research Centre: Science Communication for Public Debate - Ispra, Italy

In the framework of the JRC enlargement and Integration action, the JRC Ispra is organizing a course entitled "Science Communication for Public Debate". It will be held in Ispra (Italy) the 27-29 June 2012 (3 days).

The number of place is limited to 15 persons.

Interested persons are invited to fill and send me the application form attached together with a CV by end of April 2012.

Abstract of the course:

Where science is a relevant input in policy making processes, communication of science becomes a primary task for those involved in promoting public engagement in those processes. Neither popularization of science solutions nor science education approaches are appropriate, because the objective is not to educate the *publics* but rather to engage them in the research's products, as well as to make them part of the process. New forms of dialogue and new mechanisms for introducing scientific issues to (most likely) non-scientific audiences call for communication processes that deepen the interface between the scientific processes and products and the audiences. In this course we will start with a critique of the "public understanding of science" (PUS) ideas and associated "deficit model" deemed responsible for science controversy and we will instead working on science communication practices that genuinely engage *publics* with the policy relevant scientific issues that need to be debated, scrutinized and deliberated. In an era of the digital permeating all aspects of life, science communication in contexts of *publics* engagement as described earlier, great challenges and opportunities arise, therefore the course will also highlight such context, besides the other more traditional media contexts.

Best regards,

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