

Teaching Research Data Management Skills to Students

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Cord Wiljes CITEC Bielefeld University









CITEC Open Science Manifesto (May 2013)

"CITEC recognizes the need to extend the educational curriculum for young scientists towards topics of research data management and offers training and personal consulting for advanced researchers, thus contributing to awareness among young researchers of good practice in scientific research."

→ https://www.cit-ec.de/en/open-science/manifesto





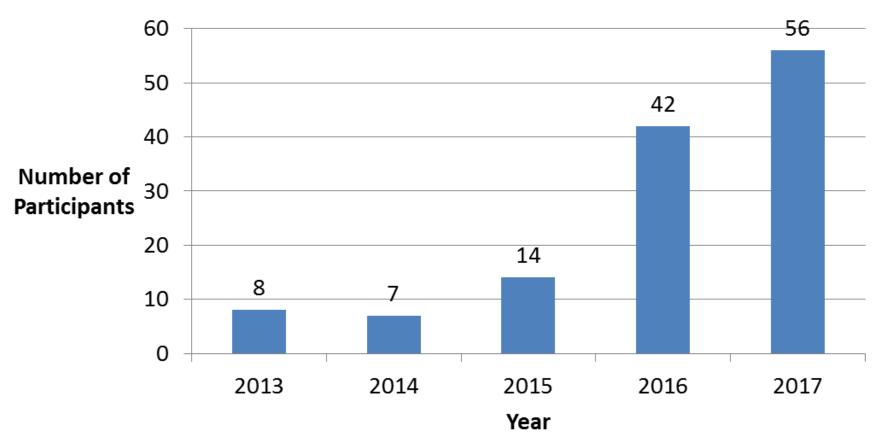
Seminar "Research Data Management"

- started in Oct. 2013, repeated every winter semester
- interdisciplinary
- 15 sessions (1,5 h each)
- 5 CP as elective module
- taught in English (since 2015)
- implemented as a module (in 2016)



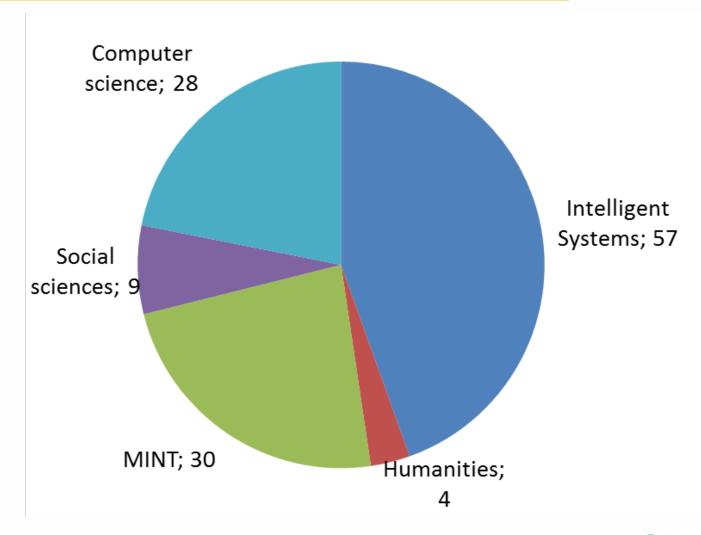
Participants: Number

Number of Participants



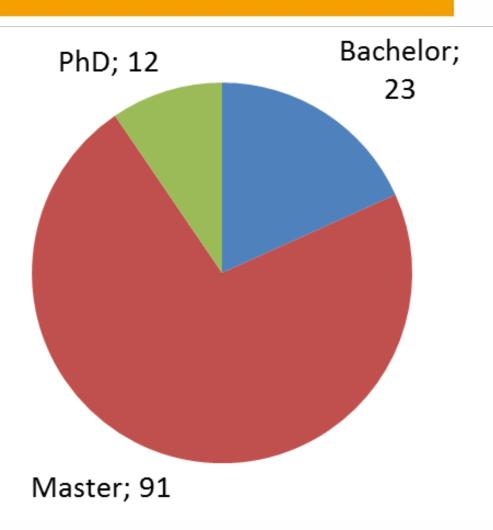


Participants: Discipline





Participants: Study Programme







Main Questions

- Which knowledge, skills and competences are relevant for mastering research data management?
- Which methods of teaching are best suited?





Obectives of the Seminar

Students shall

8

- understand the motivation, challenges and solutions of managing research data
- learn the principles of research data management and its importance for good scientific practice
- acquire knowledge of the organizational, technical and legal aspects of managing research data
- apply the acquired knowledge to their own disciplines' research
- develop competence to make up their own mind about the questions of Open Science





Topics of the Seminar

- 1. Introduction
- Good Scientific Practice
- 3. Data, Information, Knowledge
- Data Backup
- 5. Data Archiving
- 6. Organizing Data; Documentation + Metadata
- 7. Sharing, Publishing, Finding + Re-Using Data
- 8. Requirements of Funding Agencies
- 9. Copyright Law and Licenses
- 10. Sensitive Data and Privacy Protection
- 11. Data Management Services at Bielefeld University
- 12. Tools #1: CMS + Wikis, Project Management Software
- 13. Tools #2: Cloud storage, Version Control Systems (Git)
- 14. Tools #3: Electronic Lab Notebooks
- 15. Data Management Plans
- 16. Open Science





Competence-Based Approach: Mix of methods

- start with a current topic or example
- alternate presentation of knowledge with student assignments (whole-class, group, individual)
- use real-life examples from disciples of students
- include presentations by the participants
- group discussions





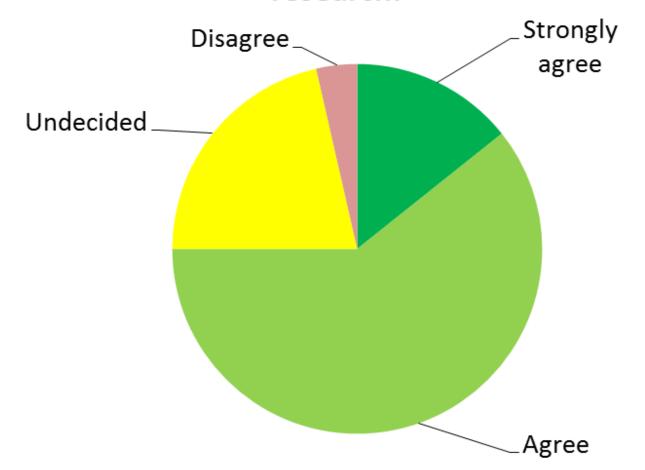
Final Assignment: Data Management Plan

students will create their own data management plan to organize one of their own research project.



Evaluation

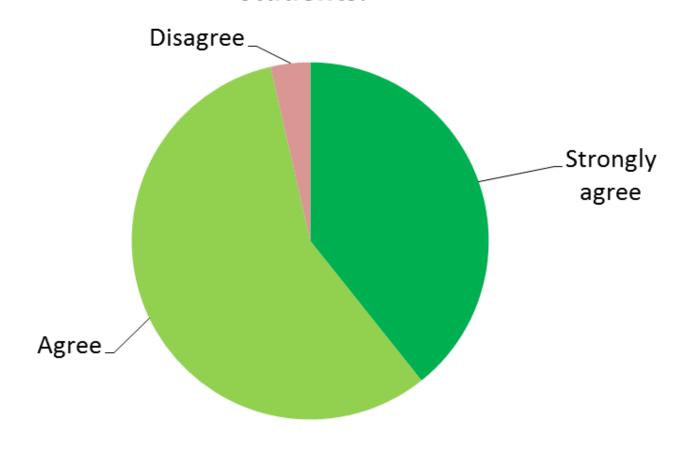
"The seminar was useful for my studies / research."





Evaluation

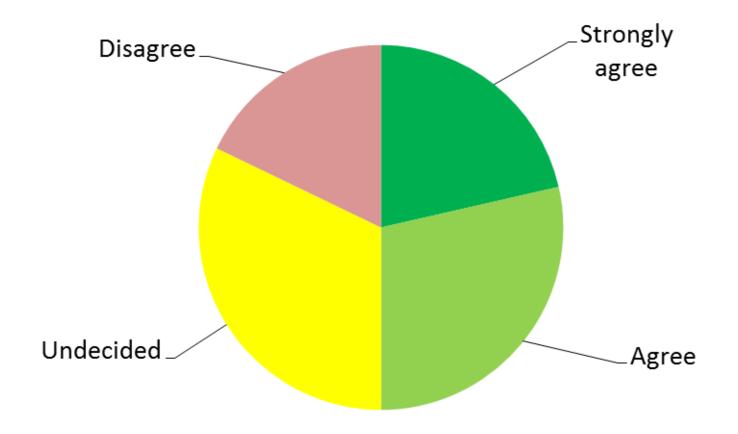
"I would recommend the seminar to other students."





Evaluation

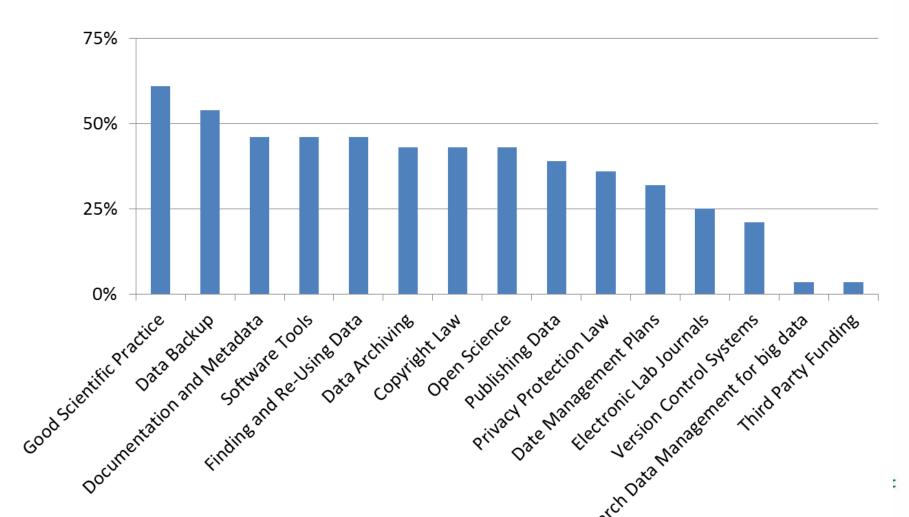
"I would have liked more practical exercises."





Topics

Which topics would you like to learn more about?

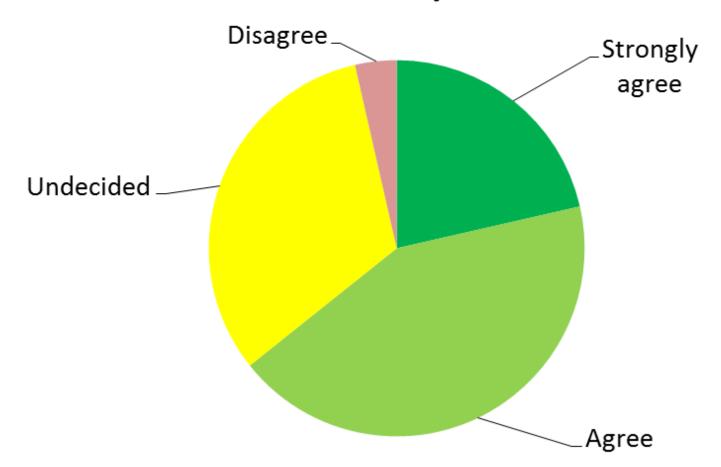


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Opinions

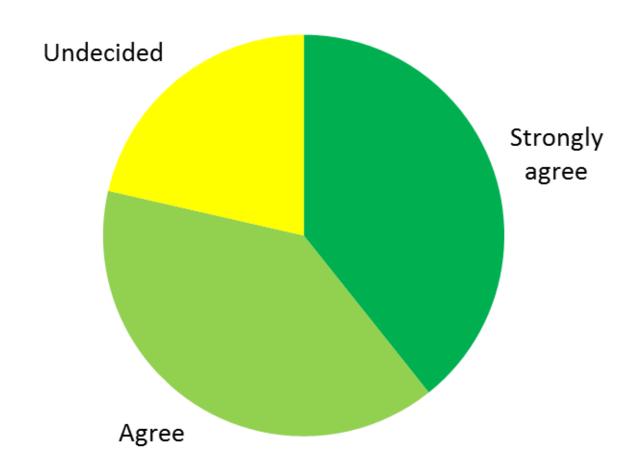
"Learning about research data management should be mandatory for students."





Opinion

"Research data should be openly shared."







Comment by Student

"What I found most interesting about the seminar was the part about good scientific practice, which helped me in finding a better understanding of how to properly work on my Bachelor thesis."