



Vox Institute

Training and Research Institute
Institut de formation et de recherche
Specialised in speech communication and social psychology



International Workshop

The Power of Voice and Nonverbal Behaviour in Speech Communication

April 17th - 18th 2020
and
June 12th - 13th 2020

When we speak, other people “read” our voices in addition to listening to our words. Things they pay attention to include your pace, your tone and inflection, and your fluency. Our voices also convey emotional meanings: joy, sarcasm, anger, affection, or confidence.

Nonverbal messages (facial expressions, gestures, posture) have a huge impact on the quality of your personal and professional relationships. The way you communicate affects how others see you, how well they like and respect you, and whether or not they trust you. It is not just what you say; it is how you say it.

Objectives:

1. To identify personal strengths and weaknesses in speech communication.
2. To choose the speaking style that enhances credibility and persuasiveness.
3. To acquire vocal skills appropriate for speaking at meetings (video/audio conf.), presenting facts and figures, public speaking, and Face-to-Face communication.
4. To master the strategic use of nonverbal behaviour (facial expressions, gestures, posture, gaze).
5. To structure the content of presentations in a way that raises interest and maintains attention.

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Direction: Dr. Branka Zei Pollermann

Société Suisse de Psychologie; Association for the Advancement of Affective Computing;
Society for the Study of Artificial Intelligence and the Simulation of Behaviour;
International Speech Communication Association; International Society for Research on Emotion

Programme:

- The role of verbal, vocal and nonverbal behaviour in speech communication.
- Three main vocal skills: chunking, emphasis, intonation.
- Vocal style in public speaking and in face-to-face interaction.
- Verbal aspects: vocabulary (emotional semantic networks); choice of argumentation strategy (blends of rational and emotional strategies).
- Nonverbal behaviour (facial expressions, gestures, gaze, posture) and their strategic usage in speech communication.
- Congruence between verbal content and nonverbal behaviour.
- The *Pyramid principle*: structure of talks
- Most efficient rhetorical figures in speaking and writing.

Pre-work: The attendees' voices are acoustically analysed and their *Vocal profiles* are presented on the first day of the course.

Duration: 2 days (14 hours)

Maximum number of attendees: 10

Venue: a small château very close to Geneva (France, Haute Savoie).

Price:

- 1) If residential, CHF 2100.-/person. The price includes: workshop fee, pre-workshop and post acoustic voice-analyses, lodging (2 nights) supper on day of arrival, two breakfasts, one dinner, 2 lunches, and the transportation (from Geneva railway station or airport to the chateau and back).
- 2) If non-residential, CHF 1950.- / person (including all meals and the transportation - once to and from the chateau).

To reserve a place please click [HERE](#)

Trainer: [Branka Zei Pollermann PhD](#) - founder and director of Vox Institute.

[Vox Institute](#) was founded in Geneva in 1988. It is training and research institute specialized in speech communication and emotion psychology. Its mission is to provide scientifically based courses and objective assessment of: (a) communication skills and (b) emotional climate in organisations. Vox Institute uses leading-edge technology for assessment and training in vocal and non-verbal skills of speech communication.

Branka Zei Pollermann PhD (founder and director) teaches speech communication, leadership and social/emotional intelligence and in Switzerland, France and the UK. She is author of [numerous publications](#). Her academic credentials include: PhD in psychology (University of Geneva), three MAs (general linguistics, psychology, English and Italian languages and literature) and postgraduate studies in speech pathology, phonetics, philosophy and sociology. She held part-time teaching and research positions at: Geneva University – Faculty of psychology (9 yrs.), Geneva University Hospitals (17 yrs.), CERN (7 yrs.), and Zagreb University - Phonetics Institute (7 yrs.). For some media coverage see: <https://www.vox-institute.ch/about-us/>



Hiking and jogging possibilities in the surroundings.