



ADVANCED DIGITAL PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MEDIA TRAINING COURSE

23 - 27 Nov 2026

CAPE TOWN

4600 € (PER PERSON)

REF: #PR2599_282683



COURSE INTRODUCTION / OVERVIEW:

The landscape of public relations and media has been irrevocably altered by digital transformation, demanding a new breed of professional adept at navigating this complex ecosystem. This course provides a comprehensive exploration of modern PR and media strategies, moving beyond traditional practices to embrace the full potential of digital platforms. We will delve into the core principles that govern effective online communication, from strategic content creation to data-driven campaign measurement. Drawing upon the foundational concepts discussed by academics like James E. Grunig on two-way symmetrical communication and the practical applications outlined in books such as "The New Rules of Marketing & PR" by David Meerman Scott, this program bridges theory and practice. Participants will learn to build and protect brand reputation in a 24/7 news cycle, leverage social media for meaningful engagement, and utilize analytics to demonstrate tangible value. BIG BEN Training Center has designed this curriculum to equip professionals with the foresight and skills necessary to lead successful communication initiatives, ensuring they can craft compelling narratives, manage digital crises, and build lasting stakeholder relationships in an increasingly interconnected world. This is an A-to-Z guide for mastering the art and science of digital public relations.

TARGET AUDIENCE / THIS TRAINING COURSE IS SUITABLE FOR:

- Public Relations Managers and Directors.
- Corporate Communications Specialists.
- Media Relations Professionals.
- Digital Marketing Managers.
- Social Media Strategists.
- Brand and Content Managers.
- Public Affairs Officers.
- Marketing Communication Coordinators.
- Business owners and entrepreneurs seeking to enhance their public image.



TARGET SECTORS AND INDUSTRIES:

- Technology and Information Technology Services.
- Healthcare and Pharmaceutical sectors.
- Banking, Finance, and Insurance.
- Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) and Retail.
- Governmental bodies and public sector institutions.
- Non-Profit Organizations and Educational Institutions.
- Media, Entertainment, and Publishing.
- Professional Services and Consulting.

TARGET ORGANIZATIONS DEPARTMENTS:

- Public Relations and Corporate Affairs.
- Marketing and Communications.
- Brand Management.
- Social Media and Digital Content.
- Investor Relations and Shareholder Communications.
- Internal Communications and Employee Engagement.
- Customer Relations and Service Departments.



COURSE OFFERINGS:

By the end of this course, the participants will have able to:

- Develop integrated digital PR campaigns that align with strategic business objectives.
- Master the art of digital storytelling to create compelling brand narratives.
- Utilize SEO principles to enhance the visibility of PR content.
- Implement effective social media strategies for audience engagement and community building.
- Manage online reputation and respond to digital crises with confidence.
- Leverage data analytics to measure PR campaign performance and demonstrate ROI.
- Identify and collaborate with key influencers to amplify brand messages.
- Adapt communication strategies for various digital media platforms and formats.
- Forecast emerging trends in digital PR, including the impact of AI and machine learning.

COURSE METHODOLOGY:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be immersive, interactive, and immediately applicable to the professional environment. This course moves beyond traditional lecture formats to foster a dynamic learning atmosphere where participants actively engage with the material. We utilize a blended approach that includes expert-led presentations on core concepts, in-depth case study analyses of successful and unsuccessful digital PR campaigns, and hands-on workshops where participants use real-world tools and frameworks. A significant portion of the course is dedicated to collaborative group exercises, such as developing a digital crisis communication plan or creating a multi-platform content strategy. These activities encourage peer-to-peer learning and the exchange of diverse perspectives. Interactive Q&A sessions, practical simulations, and personalized feedback from the instructor ensure that each participant can connect the course content to their specific professional challenges. Our focus is on building practical skills and strategic thinking, empowering attendees to return to their organizations with actionable insights and the confidence to lead digital PR initiatives effectively.



COURSE AGENDA (COURSE UNITS):

UNIT ONE: FOUNDATIONS OF THE DIGITAL PR ECOSYSTEM

- The evolution from traditional to digital public relations.
- Mapping the modern digital media landscape.
- Key principles of integrated marketing communications (IMC).
- Ethical considerations and transparency in digital PR.
- Understanding target audiences and digital personas.
- Core components of a digital PR strategy.
- Aligning PR objectives with overall business goals.

UNIT TWO: STRATEGIC CONTENT CREATION AND DIGITAL STORYTELLING

- Developing a compelling brand narrative for digital platforms.
- Content marketing fundamentals for public relations.
- Search Engine Optimization (SEO) for PR professionals.
- Creating engaging multimedia content (video, infographics, podcasts).
- Writing effective press releases and articles for online distribution.
- Leveraging blogs and owned media for thought leadership.
- Repurposing content for maximum reach and impact.

UNIT THREE: SOCIAL MEDIA AND INFLUENCER RELATIONS MANAGEMENT

- Selecting the right social media platforms for your brand.
- Advanced strategies for community management and engagement.
- The art and science of influencer identification and outreach.
- Building authentic relationships with digital influencers and brand advocates.
- Utilizing social listening tools for market intelligence.
- Managing paid social media campaigns to support PR objectives.
- Measuring the impact of social media and influencer activities.



UNIT FOUR: DATA, ANALYTICS, AND ONLINE REPUTATION MANAGEMENT

- Identifying key performance indicators (KPIs) for digital PR.
- Introduction to Google Analytics and other measurement tools.
- Techniques for monitoring brand mentions and sentiment online.
- Proactive and reactive strategies for online reputation management.
- Developing a digital crisis communication plan.
- Creating insightful reports to demonstrate PR value to stakeholders.
- Using data to refine and optimize future PR campaigns.

UNIT FIVE: THE FUTURE OF PR AND ADVANCED DIGITAL STRATEGIES

- The impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on public relations.
- Integrating PR with digital advertising and sales funnels.
- Exploring the role of virtual and augmented reality in brand experiences.
- Advanced techniques in media relations and digital outreach.
- Personal branding for corporate executives in the digital age.
- Developing a comprehensive, future-proof digital PR plan.
- Capstone project: Presentation of a complete digital PR campaign.

FAQ:

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR REGISTERING TO THIS COURSE?

There are no requirements.

HOW LONG IS EACH DAILY SESSION, AND WHAT IS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF TRAINING HOURS FOR THE COURSE?

This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours.



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT:

Reflection Question: How can public relations professionals ethically leverage AI and data analytics to build authentic relationships with stakeholders without compromising privacy and trust?

WHAT UNIQUE QUALITIES DOES THIS COURSE OFFER COMPARED TO OTHER COURSES?

This course distinguishes itself by providing a holistic and strategic perspective on digital public relations, moving beyond a superficial overview of tools and platforms. While many programs focus on the "how-to" of specific social media channels, our curriculum emphasizes the "why" behind every action, grounding practical skills in established communication theory and strategic business objectives. We focus on cultivating a data-driven mindset, teaching participants not just how to gather metrics, but how to interpret them to derive actionable insights and demonstrate tangible value to leadership. The curriculum is uniquely forward-looking, with a dedicated unit on the future of PR that explores the impact of disruptive technologies like Artificial Intelligence, ensuring participants are prepared for the challenges and opportunities ahead. Furthermore, the methodology, centered on real-world case studies and collaborative problem-solving, ensures that learning is not passive. Participants leave not with a list of tactics, but with a comprehensive framework for developing, executing, and measuring sophisticated digital PR campaigns that build reputation, foster engagement, and drive organizational success.