

### Course ID

Job market seminars in economics and finance

*(Transferable skill course)*

#### 1. Course details

Semesters: 1

Credit rating: 1 ECTS (15 TU)

Pre-requisite(s): -

Lecturers: Professor Irmen Andreas (15 TU)  
Professor Julien Penasse (15 TU)  
Professor Pierre M Picard (15 TU)

Administrator: -

Secretary: Roswitha Glorieux

Tutor: No

Seminar times and rooms: See plan of semester  
DEM

**Communications** **It is important that students should regularly read their University e-mails, as important information will normally be communicated this way.**

Reading week: -

Mode of assessment: Referee reports, presentations, class participation

Additional work: TBA

Examination Periods: -

Course WebPage: [Moodle.uni.lu](https://moodle.uni.lu)

## 2. Aims and objectives

### Aims

The aim of this course is to equip doctoral students of Economics and Finance with important transferable skills necessary to succeed in the academic job market for PhDs in Economics and Finance. This market functions according to an internationally standardized procedure. Three crucial ingredients of a successful application are 1) the letter of application, 2) the job market interview and 3) the presentation of the job market paper. Arguably, the first contact of the applicant with the recruitment committee of the hiring academic institution is the letter of application. It is the first chance to make a good impression and, therefore, should be conceived with great care. During the job market interview, candidates are also expected to succinctly summarize their research in a few sentences. It is essential that candidates are well-prepared for this exercise. The presentation of the job market paper takes place in a regular seminar set-up and lasts between 60 to 90 minutes during which many questions are asked. The job market seminar will prepare participants for these challenges.

This course is meant to mimic the atmosphere of typical job market interviews and job market seminars. Hence, it includes multiple lecturers in the same room at the same time. The seminar targets PhD students in their 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> year.

In 2022, the course is run in remote conditions to mimic the 2022 job market. The course is valuable for students who want to engage in the academic market as well as for those who want to reflect on this next important career step.

Optimal number of students is 4-5. Priority given to PhD students in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year.

### Learning Objectives

Students will learn to

- Present their research in a clear and articulate manner
- Handle questions in a seminar and keep track of time in an active seminar
- Give insightful comments to presentations of other researchers
- Prepare an application letter
- Be prepared for job interview

## 3. Provisional plan of semester

	Dates	Room	Time	Topic	Deadlines
1	25 Feb	WEBEX	12:00-13:30	Introduction	-
2	4 March	WEBEX	12:00-13:30	Short presentations	-
3	11 March	WEBEX	12:00-13:30	Short presentation	-
4	18 March	WEBEX	12:00-13:30	Application and letters	-
5	25 March	WEBEX	12:00-13:30	Long presentations	-
6	1 April	WEBEX	12:00-13:30	Long presentations	-
7	8 April	WEBEX	12:00-13:30	Long presentations	-
8	22 April	WEBEX	12:00-13:30	Interviews	-

## 4. Assessment

Grading is based on class participation and quality of presentation or of the referee report. The course will be **graded** on a pass/fail basis.

## 5. References

Bryan, K. A. (2019). Young “Stars” In Economics: What They Do And Where They Go. *Economic Inquiry*, 57(3), 1392-1407.

Cawley, J. “A Guide and Advice for Economists on the U.S. Junior Academic Job Market 2016–2017 Edition.” IZA Working Paper No. 10400, 2016.

Coles, P., J. Cawley, P. B. Levine, M. Niederle, A. E. Roth, and J. L. Siegfried. “The Job Market for New Economists: A Market Design Perspective.” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 24(4), 2010, 187–206.

Ductor, L., Goyal, S., van der Leij, M., & Nicolas Paez, G. (2020). On the influence of top journals. Mimeo.

Fourcade, M., Ollion, E., & Algan, Y. (2015). The superiority of economists. *Journal of economic perspectives*, 29(1), 89-114.

Kehoe T. (2005). Suggestions on Preparing for Presentations of Economic Research. Web access.

La Ferrara E. (2018) How to present your job market paper, European Job Market Naples, 6 Dec. 2018. Web access.

McFall, B. H., Murray-Close, M., Willis, R. J., & Chen, U. (2015). Is it all worth it? The experiences of new PhDs on the job market, 2007–10. *The Journal of economic education*, 46(1), 83-104.

Piazzesi M., Tips on how to avoid disaster in presentations, University of Chicago. Web access.

Serrano, R. (2018). *Top5itis* (No. 2018-2). Working Paper.

Shapiro J.M. How to Give an Applied Micro Talk, Unauthoritative Notes, Chicago Booth. Web access.

Siegfried, J. J., and W. A. Stock. “The Labor Market for New Ph.D. Economists.” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 13(3), 1999.

Storesletten K. The Ten Commandments for How to Give a Seminar, University of Oslo. Web access.

## Videos

PhD candidate job market poster 3 min

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tpG6IPTBYCU>

PhD candidate job market paper 15min

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Di0MEzRdHGU>

PhD economics job market presentation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ux8ErrUpcxE>

Cawley explains job market

<https://www.aeaweb.org/joe/communications/video/2020/webinar-part-1>

## Message Week 1

Thank you for your participation in this first seminar.

Here are the two homeworks you are expected to do for next seminar:

- Elevator Pitch: Formulate your research topic and your finding in 15-20 seconds.
- Job Market Presentation: Choose the slides of a paper of yours that you will exercise as potential job market. Try to rework those slides according to the advices given in the seminar (font, layout, notation, structure, research question and answer, recalls, tables, figures, literature, conclusion...). Aim at making a 30 min presentation. You may rehearse “loudly” in front of the camera of your PC and check your timing. Be prepared to switch to conclusion at any time.

Don' be perfectionist and give you some pleasure to this preparation time.

You can watch this video example of PhD candidate job market paper 15min

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Di0MEzRdHGU>

This is an example, of course.

Pierre, Julien and Andreas