

## SKILLS AND PRACTICE FOR A SUCCESSFUL PHD (cod 40424)

PhD Students Preparation and Presentation Workshop 2019:

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The goal of the course is to teach 2<sup>nd</sup> year PhD students (and beyond) the basic skills required for conducting top-level research in Economics, writing a PhD thesis, communicating PhD research to others, and interacting with the academic community.

We also give an introduction to some of the basic tasks, responsibilities and duties of being an academic. Finally, the course is intended to support students in the first stages of their written PhD work, by providing structured advice and discussion, and by stimulating discussion among students about their work. A particular focus will be on how to present and communicate work to others, either in written form, or in presentations and seminars.

#### Workshop 1:

The first workshop defines the various goals of a PhD in economics and the various milestones involved to get there and beyond. Discussion of the material on “how to do research” distributed in advance. Discussion on how to position your research. Discussion on interaction with the research community.

Workshops 2, 3, 4: How to present your work. How to structure a talk. How to write an abstract/introduction of a paper. Importance of the motivation – contribution – implementation of the research. Students will present for 5 minutes each a research topic/paper they have worked on. General discussion and feedback from the group.

Workshops 5-6: Seminars. What to expect from them? How to present? How to structure a talk? How to manage an audience? Short presentations from selected students. Discussion of academic seminars that took place in the previous weeks and what can be learned from them.

#### Readings:

- Richard Hamming, “You and Your Research”  
<http://www.cs.virginia.edu/~robins/YouAndYourResearch.pdf>
- Dan Hamermesh’s website:  
<http://www.eco.utexas.edu/faculty/Hamermesh/AdviceforEconomists.htm>
- Dan Hamermesh , A Young Economist’s Guide to Professional Etiquette (*Journ. Econ Persps.*, Winter 1992)
- ---, Professional Etiquette for the Mature Economist, AER papers and proceedings, May 1993, 34-38
- Hal Varian: “What I’ve learned about Writing Economics”,  
<http://www.ischool.berkeley.edu/~hal/Papers/writing-economics.html>
- Hal Varian: “How to Build an Economic Model in your Spare Time”,  
<http://www.sims.berkeley.edu/~hal/Papers/how.pdf>
- Matthew Jackson, “Notes on presenting a paper”,  
<http://www.stanford.edu/~jacksonm/present.pdf>

