PhD Students Preparation and Presentation Workshop, Spring term 2014

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The goal of this course is to teach 3rd-5th year PhD students skills required on the job market and in the first years of an academic career. We shall concentrate on presentation skills (job market interview, job market presentation), how to write up an abstract and introduction of a job market paper. We shall also review publishing strategies and refereeing.

Prerequisites:

1. **Workshops 1-3:** Bring to the class the introduction of a paper you have written (max 6 pages) on the first day. You may want to spend extra time re-writing it before submitting it. Taking a look at papers in your field in the QJE, AER and other top journals can be a good idea to inspire you. Give the introduction to a friend to read and ask her/him whether s/he understands (i) the motivation for what you are doing (ii) why it is important (iii) how it extends the existing literature (iv) and how you will implement it. You should also prepare a 5-minute presentation of your paper. Another task will be how to assess the work of others.

2. **Workshops 4 & 5**, you are asked to prepare a 20mn presentation of your work. We will ask (randomly) 5-8 of you to present your work in front of the class. You should aim for a maximum of 8- 10 slides. The key point is not to impress us with your technical skills, but to present your project to a non-specialised audience, and to convince that audience that what you are doing is interesting and exciting, and worthwhile listening to.

Workshop 1:

- Introduction: Key aspects of the job market and academic life beyond.
- Job market interview practice

Workshop 2:

- Further job market interview practice.
- How to better write your job market paper with a special focus on the introduction.

Workshop 3:
- Publishing strategy. How do academic journals work? To which journal should you send your paper? Steps to getting published. How to improve your chances of getting your paper accepted at a journal.
- Refereeing.

Workshop 4 & 5:

- Seminar presentations: 4 presenters drawn at random.
- Discussion and assessment of the quality of other people's presentation.