PhD Course

“How to publish in A-Journals”

Kick-off date: 1 Apr 2022, 09h00 – 10h00
Course dates: Fridays, 8 April + 13 May + 24 June 2022 (each 09h00 – 18h00)
Digital lecture (primary), room (optional, to be decided)

Course Instructor: Prof. Dr. Jan Recker

Course Value: 2 SWS or 5 LP

Course Language: English

Course Overview:

Publishing your research in so-called “A-journals” is tough. Designing and conducting an original study with a good idea is not enough, you also need to publish your findings to be successful as a researcher.

The goal of this PhD Course is to develop your academic publishing skills and learn how to write good research articles such that they meet requirements of “A-journals” in terms of theoretical contributions, problematization, methodological rigor and interestingness. Your learning objective is to develop your skills in appreciating, critiquing, and composing research articles in business and management disciplines. The course will allow you to develop and improve your skills in publishing your current and future research findings in targeted at top-level scientific journals.

The PhD Course is taught in a seminar style where we present, discuss, and critique seminal guidelines, apply what we have learned to improve and extend our own publishing skills, and work together to reach a deeper understanding of academic publishing practice.

Course Contents: The following topics will be covered:

1. Why publishing is important
2. Finding the right outlet and selecting a submission strategy
3. Setting the hook: Gap-spotting and problematization
4. What makes a paper interesting
5. Creating theoretical contributions
6. Handling the review process
7. How editors look at your paper
8. How to write a lot

**Prerequisites:**
You should have completed methodology courses relevant to your study so you can now focus on writing, not design and execution of the study. You should also have made some progress in your own research project, so you have something to write about.

**Assessment:**  
(1) Homework (70%), (2) Presentation (30%);

(1) Homework: Term paper
You will need to submit a draft proposal of a research project of your own choice. In this proposal, you introduce the research problem, expected theoretical contribution, and position the paper relative to the existing literature. The draft must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Maximum of 6 pages excluding title page, references but including tables, and figures
- 1 inch margin on each side
- 12 pt Times New Roman
- Double-spaced

(2) Presentation: Revision strategy
You will need to analyse the review reports of a paper submitted to a top tier journal and craft a revision strategy. The manuscript and review reports will be provided to you. You need to prepare 2 slides. The first slide must summarize your learnings from the reports. The second slide should outline the revision strategy you propose. You must be prepared to present your revision strategy in class. You need to address the following questions:

- What is the tonality of the reviews?
- How do you weigh the reviews relative to each other?
- What are the main issues?
- Are they consistent across reviewers?
- What are your options for addressing the critical issues?
- How would you design the revision?

**Readings:** A list of required readings will be made available via STiNE in advance.

**Registration:** Registration is mandatory, via STiNE