

Workshop

Academic Writing, Paper Presentation and Discussion

(particularly in the fields of accounting, economics, finance, and management)

Organizational Details

Instructor:	Junior Professor Dr Peter Limbach (University of Bonn, University of Cologne and CFR)
Dates:	November 16, 2020, 9.00 am - 5.00 pm (Presentations and discussions) November 17, 2020, 9.00 am - 5.00 pm (Writing) November 18, 2020, 9.00 am - 5.00 pm (Applied econometrics)
Location:	Online (details and link will follow soon) due to the development of COVID-19
ECTS:	6 ECTS
Participants:	6

Objectives

- Improve writing skills (e.g., how to write an abstract and introduction, how to facilitate skimming, the structure of a paper, tables and figures, English language and writing style).
- Improve presentation techniques (e.g., the structure of a presentation, slide design, English language, body language, psychological aspects, answering questions the right way).
- Learn how to discuss a paper (e.g., the structure of a discussion, which aspects of a paper should be emphasized/criticized, how to assess data sets and empirical results).
- Comprehend why writing, presenting, and discussing papers is important and what you should and should not do.
- Recognize that more or less every paper can be criticized and what that means for your own paper write-up, presentation, and selection of topics to work on.
- Improve your economic and econometric understanding and reasoning, your ability to assess empirical studies and econometric methods, and learn more about the importance of counterfactuals as well as alternative explanations and other endogeneity concerns.

Content

- 1.) The instructor provides an overview of important aspects of writing and presenting research papers as well as an introduction to research paper discussions. Topics include i) the reasons why scholars should present and discuss academic work, ii) writing tips (e.g., how to write an abstract and introduction, the structure of a paper, tables and figures, English language), and iii) an overview of presentation and discussion techniques (e.g., structure of a presentation and discussion, slide design, language, body language, psychological aspects), which the instructor enriches via personal examples.

- 2.) Course participants present and discuss academic papers. The instructor provides dynamic feedback to each presenter and discussant. The instructor's feedback addresses presentation techniques, language as well as the content of the presentations and discussions. In addition, all course participants are encouraged to provide their own feedback on their colleagues' presentations and discussions.
- 3.) The instructor presents his own discussions of/ referee reports on each of the discussed papers (as a blueprint) and elaborates on important theoretical and econometric aspects of each paper. The presentations serve to highlight i) discussion techniques, ii) econometric and economic reasoning, iii) how to convey constructive criticism in a pleasant and factual way.
- 4.) Two exercises: i) Abstract writing – students have to write an abstract of 100-150 words of their own research paper or dissertation; ii) Short presentations – students have to present/pitch their own research or research idea on no more than 3 slides (w/o cover slide). The instructor provides feedback with respect to how the abstract is written and how it can be shortened and to how the presentation slides are designed and presented.
- 5.) Writing: abstracts and introductions, the body of the paper.
- 6.) Insights into the submission and publication process, e.g., cover letter, revise and resubmit, rejection, what to do after getting an R&R or rejection.
- 7.) Applied econometrics: this part of the workshop focuses on the use of econometrics and allows participants to reconsider the papers they had to present or discuss before (some of these papers serve to highlight econometric issues) – participants develop an understanding of causality and endogeneity problems as well as important econometric methods, such as OLS, panel data and fixed effects estimation, difference-in-differences estimation and event studies, instrumental variables, RDD, and survey data.
- 8.) For the applied econometrics session, an additional slide set will be provided, which will cover econometric theory and econometric applications in the context of corporate governance.

Methods

See also Content.

Use presentation methods (i.e., slides, tables, figures and written language on the one hand, spoken language and body language on the other hand), write abstracts, discuss with the audience, use econometric methods and sound economic reasoning to analyze and criticize academic papers, develop and justify alternative explanations and explain counterfactuals.

Target Group

The workshop primarily targets doctoral candidates but postdocs can participate as well.

Prerequisites:

The papers used in the workshop relate to accounting, finance, governance, and management. While participants should have some basic knowledge of empirical methods applied in these research areas

(i.e., OLS, panel data, event studies), in-depth knowledge is not required. Participants do not have to possess expert knowledge of the underlying literature.

Course Language

Abstracts, presentations and discussions should be in English, the rest can be done in German.

To gain the ECTS credit points participants have to:

- Participate in the seminar and read the slides
- Read the papers they have to present and discuss and prepare the respective presentations (instructions will be provided)
- Prepare a brief presentation (Pitch) of own research for the second day: research question and motivation, hypotheses, empirical setup (data/tests)
- Write an abstract of no more than 100-150 words of their own paper or dissertation

About the lecturer

Peter Limbach currently holds the substitution professorship of Financial Economics at the University of Bonn (substituting Prof. Dr. Isabel Schnabel). He is assistant professor of finance at the University of Cologne and a member of the Centre for Financial Research. Peter studied economics at the University of Bonn and received his Dr. rer. pol. from the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology. He spent several months as a visiting scholar at the Rotterdam School of Management. His research is concerned with issues of corporate governance and managerial economics, financial accounting and information economics, as well as financial intermediation. Peter's papers have been accepted for presentation at leading academic conferences, including the annual meetings of the Western Finance Association (WFA), the Financial Intermediation Research Society (FIRS), the European Accounting Association (EEA) as well as the American Accounting Association FARS Mid-Year meeting and the meeting of the Strategic Management Society. Peter has published in reputable academic journals such as the Journal of Financial & Quantitative Analysis and the Journal of Banking & Finance and some of his working papers are invited for resubmission at top journals.

Registration

If you would like to participate in this workshop, please register by **October 15, 2020** via e-mail at info@ggs.uni-giessen.de.