



Aachen International  
Summer School  
in Research Methods

**RWTH**AACHEN  
UNIVERSITY

## **9<sup>TH</sup> AACHEN INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL IN RESEARCH METHODS AND DATA SCIENCE (ACISS)**

### **INTRODUCTION TO THE PUBLICATION PROCESS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS**

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# 1 COURSE OVERVIEW

Course Name:	<b>Introduction to the Publication Process in Peer-reviewed Journals</b>
Degree Programmes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Post-Docs and PhD students</li> <li>2. Master BWL (all specializations): MSBWL10, MSBWL13</li> </ol> <p>Master Wirtschaftswissenschaften (all specializations): MSWiWi10, MSWiWi14</p> <p>Master Wirt.-Ing. (MSWiBau, MSWiEET, MSWiWPT, MSWiMB, all specializations): MSWi10, MSWi15</p>
Lecturer:	Univ.-Prof. Dr. Peter Letmethé
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Location and Time:	Templergraben 64, Room 518 (WiÜ) 14 <sup>th</sup> August to 18 <sup>th</sup> August, 8:30 am – 5:30 pm
Content Description:	The seminar primarily targets PhD students in economics and business administration as well as advanced master students who are interested in an academic career. The participants learn how to successfully master different stages of publication processes in high-quality journals. These stages include the formulation of research questions, their theoretical foundation and the application of suitable methods. For each stage, we define quality criteria, which are crucial for an article's acceptance. These elements of publication processes will be trained theoretically and on a practical basis. Students will examine how published articles are designed and we discuss the weaknesses and strengths of several publication strategies. Students will also formulate research questions and examine how they can be elaborated theoretically and methodically. Finally, the students learn how to constructively review papers and how to respond to the reviewers' comments.
Qualification Objectives:	<p>Learning objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ethical and social aspects of publication processes in peer-reviewed journals (good publication practices)</li> <li>• Knowledge about quality criteria of scientific journals and publication strategies</li> <li>• Choice of potential target journals</li> <li>• Development and formulation of research questions</li> <li>• Theoretical foundation of models and hypotheses</li> <li>• Introduction to different methodical streams to respond to research questions</li> <li>• Structure of review processes</li> <li>• Critical thinking in a variety of business contexts</li> </ul>
Literature:	See readings below
Course Examination:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Colloquium: Quality of contributions to discussion, homework (reviews and development of research designs), and in-class presentations (50%)</li> <li>2. Written article review after the course week (50%)</li> </ol>
Participation Requirements:	No formal requirement.

Group Size:	20 participants (max)
Workload:	30 hours of lecturing and group work 120 hours of additional individual and group preparation
Type of Teaching Event:	Lecture with integrated individual and group work
Language:	English
Credits:	5

## 2 SCOPE OF THE COURSE

The seminar primarily targets PhD students in economics and business administration as well as advanced master students who are interested in an academic career. The participants learn how to successfully master different stages of publication processes in high-quality journals. These stages include the formulation of research questions, their theoretical foundation and the application of suitable methods. For each stage, we define quality criteria, which are crucial for an article's acceptance. These elements of publication processes will be trained theoretically and on a practical basis. Students will examine how published articles are designed and we discuss the weaknesses and strengths of several publication strategies. Students will also formulate research questions and examine how they can be elaborated theoretically and methodically. Finally, the students learn how to constructively review papers and how to respond to the reviewers' comments.

### Learning objectives:

- Ethical and social aspects of publication processes in peer-reviewed journals (good publication practices)
- Knowledge about quality criteria of scientific journals and publication strategies
- Choice of potential target journals
- Development and formulation of research questions
- Theoretical foundation of models and hypotheses
- Introduction to different methodical streams to respond to research questions
- Structure of review processes
- Critical thinking in a variety of business contexts

### 3 PARTICIPANTS AND REQUIREMENTS

#### ***Participants***

1. Post-Docs and PhD students
2. Master BWL (all specializations): MSBWL10, MSBWL13  
Master Wirtschaftswissenschaften (all specializations): MSWiWi10, MSWiWi14  
Master Wirt.-Ing. (MSWiBau, MSWiEET, MSWiWPT, MSWiMB, all specializations): MSWI10, MSWI15

Advanced master students are invited to participate. However, they should be in the second half of their respective MSc program.

Due to the interactive teaching format, the number of participants is limited to 20. Preference will be given to PhD students.

#### ***Grading***

The final grade will be calculated as the weighted average of quality of contributions to discussion, homework (reviews and development of research designs). 50 percent: In-class presentations, 50 percent: written article review

Complete attendance of each session of the course. Absolutely no exceptions apply. Leaves will only be granted in cases of illnesses or if the person demanding a leave is required to participate in an official activity of the University, Faculty, or Institute. In the first case, the doctor's medical certificate must be presented to the Chair immediately (i.e. latest by the first working day following the absence day). Failure to comply with this rule leads to a no-pass grade. Passing grades can generally not be earned by students who miss more than 20% of the total class-time

## 4 TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

	Mo	Tu	Wed	Thu	Fri
<b>Morning Sessions</b> 8.30 am – 12.00 pm	What is good research	Discussion of research questions	Theoretical foundation of research questions	<i>Paper Reviews (group work)</i>	Marketing of papers (types of conferences, networking)
	Research processes	Research methodologies Target journals	<i>Theoretical foundations of research questions (group work)</i>	Discussion of reviews	Research as a team process and problems within research teams
<b>Afternoon session 1</b> 1.30 -4.00 pm	<i>Formulation of research questions (group work)</i>	<i>Identification of target journals and publication strategies (group work)</i>	Discussion of the theoretical foundations	<i>Preparing a presentation for a conference (group work)</i>	Presentations
<b>Afternoon session 2:</b> 4-5.00 pm		Discussion of target journals / publication strategies	Introduction to the review process		Presentations and Wrap-up

The course is structured according to the following research process.



## Contact Details

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