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## **Course Syllabus**

### **"Publishing and Writing in Agricultural Economics"**

**Promotionskolleg Agrarökonomik**

**(3 credit points)**

**Place and time: Nussallee 21, House 2, Seminar-room, 53115 Bonn**

**September 12-16, 2011**

### **Objectives**

This course is designed to help Ph.D. students in agricultural economics to develop and improve their skills to publish scientific research in refereed journals. The students will acquire relevant knowledge on the publication process and practice technical writing in exercises.

### **Course format and grading**

We will start with a lecture each morning between 9am and 12am (with a 15 minute break). Then a large part of the afternoon students will work on assignments given in the morning. We will then meet again at 4:30 pm to discuss the assignments. Grading will be on a pass/fail basis and is solely based on active participation. Complete attendance is mandatory for a pass.

### **Prerequisites**

The course will be held in English and a solid command of the English language is required. It will be helpful if all students bring their own notebook computer if available. A limited number of notebook computers can be provided.

### **Course content**

1. Introduction
2. Literature Search
3. Journals / Journal quality / Impact factors and Co.
4. The review process
5. The writing process: Structure, content, and style of articles

## Material

Course material will be provided online at the course site.

Some useful/interesting web sites (some of those Prof. Cramon-Taubadel made me aware of originally):

- The ISI web of knowledge: [www.isiknowledge.com](http://www.isiknowledge.com)
- Thomas Heckelei: Publishing as an Agricultural Economist, Thoughts on Why, Where and How. German Journal of Agricultural Economics (<http://www.gjae-online.de/inhaltsverzeichnis/pages/protected/show.prl?params=recent%3D1%26type%3D2&id=579&currPage=&type=2>)
- An online guide to scientific publication by the Commonwealth Forest Association: <http://www.cfa-international.org/ONGSWintro.html>
- Jack Lynch's guide to grammar and style: <http://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~jlynch/writing/>
- A guide to writing in psychology (with relevance to economics), University of Exeter: <http://people.exeter.ac.uk/SEGLea/psy6002/writing.htm>
- A story on a nobel-prize winning article in economics by Akerlof: [http://nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/economics/articles/akerlof/](http://nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/economics/articles/akerlof/)
- "How to publish in top Journals" by Kwan Choi, an editor of the Review of International Economics: <http://www.roie.org/how.htm>
- Important web tools while writing:
  - A dictionary to units of measurement: <http://www.unc.edu/~rowlett/units/>
  - English-French-German dictionary: <http://dict.leo.org>
  - ...to be extended during the course...