

Goodbye academia? It has been a pleasure

Topic area:	Career development
Format:	Online or in-house workshop
Workload:	4-6 webinars of 2.5 h each = 2-3 workshop days
Trainer:	Karin Bodewits or Philipp Gramlich or Lisa Steinhauer
Target group:	PhD students and postdocs



Have you enjoyed research and teaching in recent years, but now feel it is time to change? Or are you just fed up, aware that frustration alone will not lead to a smooth transition out of academia? Maybe you are not yet sure whether to stay in academia, but would like to learn more about other possibilities before making any decision? And how will AI affect your job hunt? In this course, specifically developed for PhD students and postdocs in the natural sciences, we will not only broaden your view of what you can do with your qualification, but also give you practical tips on how to reach your personal goals.

Introspection: making plans based on a closer look at yourself - Your skills, interests and values - Idealism vs. pragmatism - Postdoc or not? - How to get on track? Changing professional directions	Academic career development - What are hiring committees looking for? - How can I tailor my profile for a successful academic career?
Career options within... - The private sector - The higher education system - Governmental institutions - Patent law - As a freelancer - Consultancies... and many more!	Scoring a job - CVs and cover letters - Recruiters, job ads and open applications - Self-presentation and body language - Your elevator pitch - Legal aspects - Use of AI: How to stand out from an ever-larger crowd of AI-enhanced competitors?
Salary negotiations - When to negotiate? - What to negotiate for and how? - Hard vs. soft: do I trade off relationships vs. results, or is there a better way?	Networking - Expanding and keeping your network - Strategic networking - Networking for introverts - Social media

This course combines the content of the workshops [PhD, and next? Career options, skills and orientation for scientists](#) and [Job application and interview strategies for scientists](#). This course can be combined with [Time- life- and career-management](#) to give the integrated 3-4-day programme **Career development**.

This course can be tailored for long-term postdocs who haven't secured a professorship and face challenges transitioning to the private sector. Special emphasis is placed on redefining your skill set and career options in light of that background.