

Goodbye academia?® It has been a pleasure

Topic area:	Career development
Format:	Online or in-house workshop
Workload:	Online: 4-6 x 2.5 h-webinars plus self-paced work on our learning platform; in-house: 2-3 workshop days
Trainer:	Karin Bodewits, Philipp Gramlich or Lisa Steinhauser
Target group:	PhD students and postdocs



In this comprehensive career workshop, you will go from analysing yourself all the way to scoring the job – be it in academia, industry or any other sector.

An academic degree allows you to enter a wide variety of job fields, but where to start? And how should you navigate a tightening labour market and a job search increasingly shaped by AI? These challenges can feel overwhelming. Our experienced trainers with academic, industry and NGO backgrounds will give you orientation and tactics that have proven themselves in real life.

In this course, you'll learn about:

Introspection: Analyse yourself

- Understand your interests and values.
- Which skills do you have, which can you still develop, and which do you enjoy using?
- Your private life: Family plans, hobbies and big dreams.

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Career options within...

- The private sector.
- The higher education system: From postdoc to professorship.
- The 'alternative' career options: Governmental institutions, patent law, entrepreneurship, consultancies, teaching... and many more!

Application documents

- Adapt your CVs and cover letters to academic and non-academic employers and recruiters.
- Using AI strategically: quality vs. quantity.
- Using AI without sounding generic.

Job interviews

- Interview formats: From the video call to the assessment centre.
- Tackling illegal interview questions.
- Elevator pitches.
- Using AI as an interview training coach.

Salary negotiations

- Salary benchmarks.
- What to negotiate for beyond salary.
- The gender pay gap and its implications for negotiation.

Networking

- Expanding and keeping your network.
- Networking for introverts.
- Networking via 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 tailored for long-term postdocs who haven't secured a professorship and face challenges transitioning to the private sector. We place special emphasis on redefining your skill set and career options in light of that background.