

Ph.D. Course

# Proposal Writing and Scholarly Publication

*Prof. Dr. Uschi Backes-Gellner (University of Zurich)*

Zurich University, June 18 – 21, 2007

## **Aim of the course**

We will discuss various topics related to writing a dissertation or working paper and publishing it in refereed journals. We focus particularly on how to find a topic, how to structure the argument (paper) and how to sell a paper (idea) as well as how to handle revisions and resubmissions.

The aim is pursued by three different course elements. Firstly, each student presents a piece of the required literature and thereby works out general guidelines based on their text. Secondly, students present and discuss their own work and receive feedback from the audience in general and from one fellow student in particular in form of a referee report to their work. As a third element of the course, there will be inputs and presentations by leading researchers and experts on a small selection of crucial issues.

## **Topics**

- 1. Learn from the Big Shots: How to Find a Topic**
- 2. Style Guide for Economists**
- 3. Which Journal?**
- 4. Refereeing and How to Deal With Referee Reports**
- 5. The Reviewing Process: Empirical Facts and the Personal View**