Publishing meaningful scientific research in Economics (and related Social Sciences): A hands-on guidance for PhD students and researchers in Romania

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Synopsis
This 2-day seminar aims to provide participants with a hands-on-guidance on how to produce and disseminate what counts as meaningful scientific research in Economics from the current, mainstream, international perspective. Whereas the lectures are primarily targeting scholars and doctoral/master students in Economic Sciences from Romanian universities and research institutes — realm in urgent need of overhaul and alignment to global academic/scientific standards, anybody interested in Social Sciences more generally may potentially benefit from the pragmatic discussion and tips on academic reading, writing, speaking, publishing, as well as interacting with the wider society.

Brief outline
• Introduction: Economics, between dismal and fascinating
• Overview: Economics as science, academic discipline, profession
  - The science of Economics & modeling modus operandi, with a concrete illustration
  - Economics in the Social Sciences context
  - The sociology of the Economics academe
  - On the role of academic economists- and other social scientists- for society
• Situation of Economics academe/ research in Romania and the wider European/global context
• Tips on doing & disseminating meaningful research in Economics (and related Social Sciences)
  - What makes a good research question/ project?
  - Getting started with research: Finding research topics/ ideas
  - Carrying on with research: Triaging ideas
  - Keeping up with the scientific literature
  - Writing and structuring research papers
  - Giving academic presentations
  - Scientific peer-reviewing
  - Surviving in and excelling at the academic publishing game
  - Research ethics, transparency, reproducibility
• Tentative roadmap for aligning Economics research in Romania to international scientific standards

Format & schedule
2 lectures x 3 hours, on 23 November 2017: 10.00-13.00 and 24 November 2017: 10.00-13.00

Registration
By email to secretariat.fcll@ubbcluj.ro, in the limit of available space.

Venue
Hotel “Universitas”, 7 Plopilor Street, Conference Room, Ground Floor

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1 Current version: 22-11-2017; most recent version at www.sebastianbuhai.com/courses/Course_PublishingEcon_UBB_Nov2017.pdf; this is the description of a free seminar/ mini-course organized by the Babes-Bolyai University (UBB) ’s Institute for Advanced Studies in Science and Technology (STAR-UBB Institute) and its Center for Continuing Education and Distance Learning (“Centrul de Formare Continuă, Învățământ la Distanță, și cu Frequentă Redusă”=CFCIDFR); see also the seminar’s announcement in Romanian.
2 Swedish Institute for Social Research, Stockholm University (in residence at Babes-Bolyai University, as STAR-UBB Institute Advanced Fellow). Contact details: sebastian.buhai@sofi.su.se, www.sebastianbuhai.com
Further reading recommendations

Generally useful, and relevant for most sections of this mini-course (& accessible also to interested non-economists):

On the ontology and foundations of Economics (and Social Sciences more generally):

On Economics vs. (Social) Sciences/ Humanities (and generally on the relationship between Sciences & Humanities):

On the sociology of the Economics acadeemia, with focus on research output type, productivity, evolution, evaluation:

On the situation of Economics acadeemia/ research in Romania, and the European context:

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3 Further reading recommendations from below link to the publisher’s website for books, the journal’s website for publications (NB. many are complimentary, e.g. JEP papers), etc. Most books in there can be purchased also via Amazon (e.g., instantaneously as Kindle versions), and most of the published & gated articles are available through institutional access to repositories such as, e.g., JStor, etc.

4 For extra literature specifically focusing on the long debate on structural vs. atheoretical approaches in Economics, consult these older slides.
On tips for doing/publishing research in Economics (valid also more generally, e.g., at least for some Social Sciences):


Pishke, J., (2012), “How to Get Started on Research in Economics?”, mimeo; and see also his further references to similar works by others from http://econ.lse.ac.uk/staff/spischke/phds/.

On tips for academic writing/structuring research papers (valid way beyond Economics or Social Sciences):


On tips for visualizing data (in Economics, and in general):


On tips for scientific peer-reviewing (in Economics, and beyond):


On ethics, transparency, reproducibility in Economic Sciences (with some generality also for other Social Sciences):


On economists’ involvement with policy making:


On economists’ involvement in proper (undergraduate) teaching:

Check out http://www.core-econ.org/.