



Workshop:
“How to Become a Professor: Academic Career Planning and Optimizing”
as a part of the Mentoring Programs
of the Graduate Academy of the University of Stuttgart

Date:	June 18, 2026, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Number of participants:	12
Target audience:	doctoral candidates in the advanced stages of their doctoral studies and postdocs in the early stages of their career (1st-4th postdoc year)
Meeting mode:	via Zoom
Seminar language:	English
Trainer:	Dr. Dieta Kuchenbrandt, schainundkuchenbrandt

Description:

The aim of this seminar is, on the one hand, to provide you with a framework for reflecting on your own professional motives. On the other hand, the seminar offers knowledge, background and orientation for planning and developing the next steps towards a long-term academic career in Germany.

Questions such as the following will be discussed:

- What long-term career options does the academic job market offer for researchers and what are the actual chances here?
- What requirements and criteria should be met for this career path?
- When are which tasks particularly important?
- What has the highest priority?
- How important is the habilitation?
- What time frame is appropriate?

The seminar will inform you about the central requirements and milestones for an academic career (even beyond publications and third-party funding). Furthermore, it will provide you with concrete tips and advice on both the weighting of these requirements and on strategic considerations during the PhD and postdoc phase on the path to a professorship. Building on this, the seminar offers you the opportunity to take stock and reflect on your own academic profile and ideally derive the next important steps from this.

Additional information:

The seminar includes accompanying material (a workshop handout and a workbook with exercises, sample CVs, and an academic profile analysis sheet). This material will



be provided by schainundkuchenbrandt a few days before the seminar along with the Zoom access link.

The workshop also includes subsequent process support. Participants have the opportunity to send their application documents to the trainer when entering the application phase and will receive written feedback on how to optimize the documents.

Approximately 2 weeks before the seminar, we will conduct a preliminary online survey of participants in order to inquire about their goals and desires for the workshop – that way, they can be taken into account during the preparations.

Gender-sensitive language is emphasized in the seminar. Gender-related aspects of the individual topics are discussed, demonstrated, and debated at appropriate times.