

# Discover Your Path

Exploring Academic Careers in Business  
and Economics



*Aisha*  
*Econometrics*



*Finn*  
*Marketing*



*Lara*  
*Economics*



*Bas van der Klaauw*  
*Economics*



# Exploring Academic Careers in Business and Economics

What Does an Academic Career Entail?

Why Pursue a PhD? Life During and After a PhD

The Journey to a PhD

Q&A



# What Does an Academic Career Entail?



## Research

- Choose your topics.
- Collaborate with stakeholders and academic peers.
- Publish articles.
- Present at conferences.
- Secure research grants.

## Teaching

- Transfer knowledge.
- Bring the latest insights into the classroom.
- Develop courses.
- Mentor students.

## Service

- Peer-review for journals.
- Serve on editorial boards.
- Participate in university governance and committees.

## Societal Impact

- Contribute to solving real-world problems.
- Advice businesses and government agencies.
- Start or collaborate in entrepreneurial ventures.

What Does an Academic Career Entail?

Why Pursue a PhD?

The Journey to a PhD

# Why Pursue a PhD?

## Life During and After the PhD

Hear the Experience of our PhD students and Faculty

- Their Motivation
- Their Daily Life
- Tips
- Their Research Projects
- Their Teaching
- Their Service



Aishameriane Schmidt  
*Econometrics*



Finn-Ole Höner  
*Marketing*



Lara Klein  
*Economics*



Bas van der Klaauw  
*Economics*

Research  
Master's  
Program



PhD  
Program



What Does  
an Academic  
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Why  
Pursue a  
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The  
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a PhD

Aisha



### Current role

- 4th year PhD Candidate in Econometrics | Erasmus Rotterdam + DNB
- Statistical Analyst | De Nederlandsche Bank

### Past roles

- Research Master's Student | Tinbergen Institute
- MSc in Economics | BSc in Economics | BSc in Statistics
- Teaching Assistant | Tinbergen institute, UFSC, UDESC, UFRGS
- Research Assistant | Erasmus Rotterdam

### Research projects & Interest

- Time Series | Machine Learning | Macroeconometrics
- *How do machine learning models compare to traditional econometric methods?*
  - 1st project: nowcasting with local linear forests
  - 2nd project: nowcasting with ML methods and mixed frequency data
  - 4th project: modeling a central bank behavior with ML
  - 3rd project: bayesian trees with heteroskedastic errors

# Finn-Ole Höner



## Current role

- 1<sup>st</sup> year Ph.D. Candidate in Marketing | Erasmus School of Economics

## Past roles

- Research Master Business Data Science | Tinbergen Institute
- Data Science intern | Lidl, German Federal Bank
- M.Sc. Data Science in Business & Economics | University of Tübingen

## Research projects & Interest

- Generative AI for market research & innovation
- 1st project on learning to generate product claims for specific preferences
- 2nd project on using LLMs to simulate survey responses for sensitive topics

Lara



### Current role

- 2nd year PhD Candidate in Economics | VU Amsterdam

### Past roles

- Research Master's Student | Tinbergen Institute
- Teaching assistant | Tinbergen Institute
- Various RA & TA positions | Goethe-University Frankfurt

### Research projects & Interest

- Macroeconomics, labor economics, and inequality
- First project on the macroeconomic effects of changes in school duration
- Second project on how conflicts in wage bargaining can lead to inflation

# Bas van der Klaauw



## Current role

- Professor in Economics since 2009 | VU Amsterdam
- General Director since 2023 | Tinbergen Institute

## Past role

- PhD in Labor Economics (unemployment policy) in 2000 | Tinbergen Institute  
(interesting period: new methods, more data, faster computers)

## Research projects & Interest

- Empirics increased understanding about behavior => better policies
- Closer connection to policy makers => contribute to society
- Now also interested in education => school choice, intergenerational mobility
- Supervised about 20 PhD students => nice to work with smart and motivated people
- Give them the same support autonomy and responsibility that I got as PhD student
- Teaching => fun to transfer knowledge and shape new generations of scholars



# The Journey to a PhD

## Bachelor/Master's

- High GPA
- Intellectual curiosity
- Analytical mindset
- Creativity

## Quantitative

### Research Master's Programs (for students with a Bachelor or Master's degree)

- Economics, Econometrics, Finance: **Tinbergen Institute**
- Business (Accounting, Human Resources & Organization Behavior, Knowledge & Information Networks, Management & Strategy, Marketing, Finance, Operations Analytics, Innovation): **Business Data Science**

## Qualitative

### VU Pre-PhD Program (for students enrolled in a SBE VU Master's program only)

- Business (Accounting, Human Resources & Organization Behavior, Knowledge & Information networks, Management & Strategy, Marketing, Finance, Operations Analytics, Innovation): **Amsterdam Business Research Institute**

## PhD Program



UNIVERSITEIT VAN AMSTERDAM



Academia

Regulatory bodies  
(Central banks, EU institutions, Ministries)

Industry

What Does an Academic Career Entail?

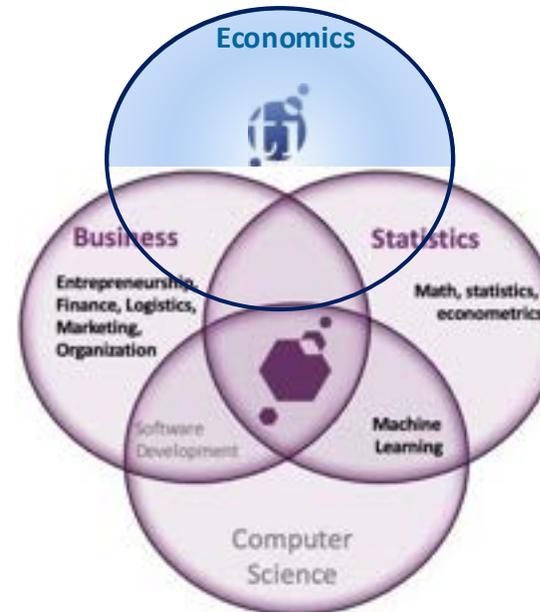
Why Pursue a PhD?

The Journey to a PhD

# Quantitative PhD Trajectory

## VU Research Master's Programs (for students with a Bachelor or Master's degree): 2 years – 120 ECs

- Higher Theoretical Level Than Traditional Master's Degree.
- Small Cohorts of Talented Students.
- Excellent Faculty.



PhD  
Program  
at VU,  
UvA,  
EUR

Academia

Regulatory bodies  
(Central banks, EU  
institutions,  
Ministries,...)

Industry (Banks,  
large companies with  
data science needs)

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# Tailored Support For Every Student's Journey



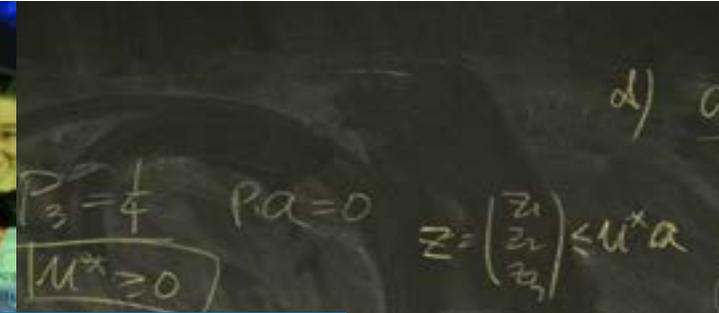
## Tailored Curriculum

- Students are Challenged at Their Own Level.
- Variety of Electives.
- Up to 4 Research Internships to Foster Individual Growth in Your Field.



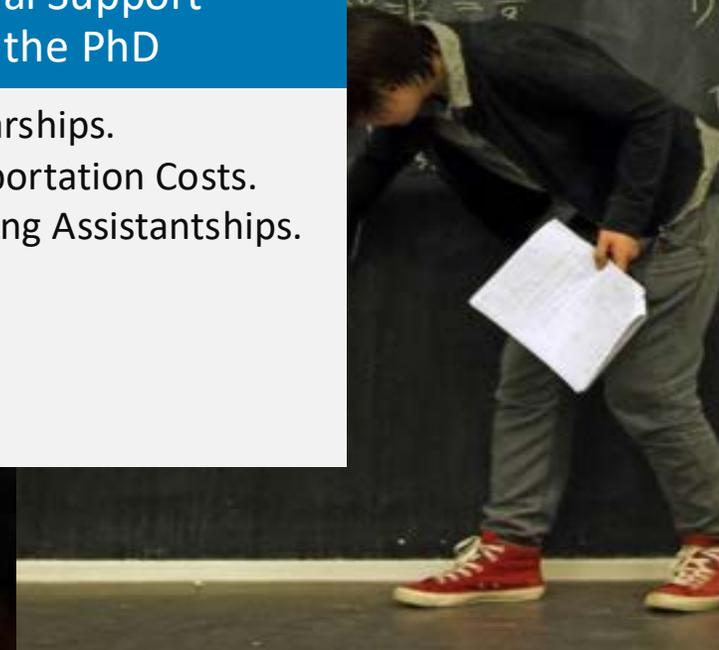
## Strong Community

- Small Cohort.
- Close Interaction with Faculty.
- Dedicated Location.
- Active Student Council.
- Supportive Education Board.



## Financial Support before the PhD

- Scholarships.
- Transportation Costs.
- Teaching Assistantships.



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# Research Master's Programs Admissions



## Requirements

Bachelor or Master's Degree  
High GPA (> 7.5/10)  
GMAT >700, GRE >160, TOEFL  
(not for students with Dutch degrees)  
Passion for Research

## Deadlines

February 1; Rolling admission until June 15  
**If interested: email us for a site visit!**  
(talk to our students & DGS)

## Sign-up for summer schools or individual courses

- Example Summer Schools: Foundation of Data Analysis & Machine Learning in Python, Deep Learning
- Example Core Courses: (Advanced) Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Reinforcement Learning, Natural Language Pr.
- Example Electives: Heuristic Optimization, Sustainable Finance, Marketing Science, AI@Work
- ...

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