

IGIER VISITING STUDENTS INITIATIVE

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The Visiting Students Initiative is organized around a few building blocks to endow students with skills that will be helpful in developing successful academic or professional careers in Italy or abroad. The tutorial activities will be always organized in such a way that they will never overlap with days/times in which courses or exams take place.

Meet with Your Mentor

Each Visiting student is assigned a mentor among the IGIER scholars. The mentor provides advice and help to the student on a variety of issues, including suggesting papers to read on a topic which the student finds interesting, discussing these papers with the students, writing recommendation letters when applying to PhD programs, advising which PhD programs to choose, etc.

Tools (« Novel Ideas and Hard Proofs »)

Whether working for a world-class consulting firm or an international organization, or whether undertaking an academic career in one of the best research institutions in the world, the ability of thinking in an analytical and rigorous way is important. To acquire these skills, IGIER warmly recommends the Visiting students taking or auditing the *Real Analysis* course taught by professor Fabio Maccheroni during the fall semester in the PhD program in Statistics.

IT Tools

IGIER provides tutorial activities and support to the Visiting students who use Matlab, Stata, and other software that is currently used to carry out research in economics and finance.

Meet the IGIER Scholars

Twice a month, an IGIER scholar presents one of his/her published articles or current research projects to the students. The primary goal of this tutorial activity is to teach students what are the exciting and open questions in a given field, how to develop a novel research idea, the necessary tools and steps to write a paper, and the best research practices in a given field.

Learn from Visiting Scholars

Through its lively Visiting Faculty program and its monthly seminar series, IGIER hosts faculty members from research institutions abroad. Students are expected to attend the IGIER seminar series, as well as the lectures that some of the Visiting scholars will prepare for them.

Reading Groups with Faculty

In Spring 2014, IGIER organizes one “general interest” reading group in which students present articles published in academic journals in front of fellow students and a group of IGIER scholars.

IGIER may organize two or three “special” Reading Groups in different fields according to students’ research interests and IGIER scholars’ availability to coordinate these additional reading groups.

Enhance Your Presentation Skills

Regardless of which professional path the students will undertake once they graduate from Bocconi, the ability of presenting their ideas in a clear, rigorous, and confident way is an essential skill. Through the reading groups, as well as through the interaction with the mentor, each student will learn helpful presentation skills.

Building the Citizens of Tomorrow

IGIER intends to nurture and foster positive values among its Visiting students. To this end, it will coordinate some pro bono activities through which the Visiting students can help other students (e.g., by providing advice to the high school students who visit Bocconi for the Talent Scout or Orientation Days).