

PRBB Intervals Course Proposal

Course Title: Job hunting in Science. What lies beyond Academia?

Proposed date(s): 4 and 9 June 2026

Course Language: English

Course Leader(s) and very brief summary of relevant qualifications and experience (no more than 2 lines for each trainer): Elena Moreno Castillo has a PhD in Biochemistry from the Halle-Wittenberg MLU (Germany). During her Postdoc at CRAG (Barcelona), she actively searched for jobs in industry and attended several courses/workshops/seminars/networking-events including: SCI FI (EIT Health); CV Pro (Libertad con Ciencia), CRG BBS2025, PFarmaT & HBA.

Rationale for course (why is this course of interest for the PRBB staff?): Only less than 1 % of PhD stays in academia. Jobs in industry are an alternative, yet very often people are not familiar when having to start looking for a job in non-academic environments.

Course aim – general: To help scientists and other research professionals transition from academia to industry by learning how to identify suitable job opportunities, understand industry language, tailor a CV for specific roles and improve professional visibility.

Specific learning outcomes - What new i) knowledge, ii) skills & iii) attitudes will participants take away from the course?

- Identify career paths that fit your skills and interests
- Translate your academic experience into industry-friendly language
- Create a customized CV for a specific job
- Improve your LinkedIn visibility and grow your professional network

Course contents (outline of topics to be covered)

Session 1 – Exploring Opportunities & Understanding Industry Language

1. What jobs are out there?
 - Discover diverse career paths beyond the lab
 - Use the Ikigai concept to find your ideal job fit
2. Adapting your CV for industry
 - Learn how to read and analyze real job offers (e.g. Patent Attorney, Medical Writer, Training Officer, Strategic Affairs roles)
 - Understand how Applicant Tracking Systems (ATS) work
 - Translate academic skills into industry language
 - Learn to match your experience with job descriptions

Session 2 – Hands-on Practice & Building Your Online Presence

1. CV Tailoring Workshop
 - Hands-on session to create a CV tailored to a real job offer

- You may bring your own job ad and CV for feedback (optional but encouraged)
- 2. Optimizing Your LinkedIn Profile
 - Learn how to access the hidden job market
 - Build meaningful connections through networking
 - Increase your visibility to recruiters
- 3. Q&A and Open Discussion
 - Bring your questions, challenges, or CVs for live feedback
 - Optional: Share your own job ad for group analysis

Training methods: Learn by doing: This two-session course is designed to help scientists transition from academia to industry by learning how to identify suitable job opportunities, tailor a CV for specific roles, and improve professional visibility, especially on LinkedIn. Through short presentations, practical exercises, and interactive activities, participants will learn how to showcase their skills in a way that resonates with industry recruiters.

Target group in PRBB (Senior scientists, postdocs, predocs, management/admin staff, all residents)

Scientists of all levels are accepted, but specially focused on predocs, postdocs & technicians.

Number of participants (maximum): 12-15

Total course hours (Please specify: direct training with instructor present and required self-study)

Note: only the direct training hours will be included in the post-course certificate.

Number of hours of class time: 8

Number of hours of self-study: 0

Total number of course hours: 8

Distribution of course (hours/days): 4h per day (2 days)

Pre-course preparation and self-study expected between sessions (what preparation should participants do before the course and/or in between sessions – reading, online study, prepare ideas etc?): None

Material participants need to bring (laptops, etc...)

- Participants must bring their Laptops
- Your LinkedIn account (free version is enough)
- A job offer that interests you (optional but helpful)
- Your current CV (if available)
- Access to ChatGPT free version (optional, but recommended)

Relevant background reading/ audiovisual/websites or other materials

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