

**Doktorandenkurs SoSe 2022 – WiSe 2022/23**

**Veranstaltungsnummer: 3WELTE150V**

## **“Grand Challenges and Entrepreneurship: How to craft impactful research”**

Global economic crises, growing economic and societal inequalities, or the dire consequences for businesses of climate-change induced natural disasters are just some of the grand challenges to which entrepreneurship research also should and could provide responses. This course focuses on the impact and relevance of entrepreneurship research. We will discuss which contributions to expect from entrepreneurship research towards grand challenges and take a close look at the aims and boundaries of impactful research.

The course will deepen your knowledge of the discussion on grand challenges and their relevance for your own research, as well as on the potential impact of your research beyond academia. We will train you to develop your own impactful research: You will learn to assess whether and how your own research could provide responses to some of the grand challenges of our times. Moreover, you will develop the skills to critically assess the current debate in a research field, and apply the insights developed in the course to the theoretical foundations and methodological approaches of your own research.

The course implies a high level of personal involvement by participants. The course will run over two semesters.

### **Course requirements for 5 ECTS points**

1. Active participation in all sessions
2. Review and assess the discussion on relevant and impactful research for your own discipline / research field. Create a poster with your insights. Present and discuss. Group assignment
3. Identify grand challenges of our times and review potential impact of those on your own research topic. Present and discuss. Group assignment.
4. Prepare a conceptual presentation of your research topic, assessing the potential responses your research could provide to grand challenges and its relevance for the research field and practice. Present and discuss. Individual assignment
5. Write-up #3 as blog entry (3.500-4.000 words plus references). Individual assignment.
6. Prepare, present and discuss an empirical paper related to the course topic, for submission to academic outlets. Individual assignment
7. Review one course paper, write-up, present and discuss. Individual assignment

**Lecturer and course facilitators:** Prof.in Dr. Friederike Welter ([welter@uni-siegen.de](mailto:welter@uni-siegen.de)).  
Dr. Faisal Saeed Malik ([faisal.malik@uni-siegen.de](mailto:faisal.malik@uni-siegen.de))

**Target group:** The course is mainly targeted at doctoral students of Faculty III and of all disciplines. Depending on the number of doctoral students interested, we may be able to offer a few seats to early-stage postdocs. Please register as explained below and let us know that you are a postdoctoral researcher.

**Requirements for participation:** The course has room for 20 participants. Please email your registration to Mrs. Tanja Sanchez ([tanja.sanchez2@uni-siegen.de](mailto:tanja.sanchez2@uni-siegen.de)) with the following information: full name, valid email address, matriculation number, research area.

**Deadline for registrations: 28.02.2022.**

**Course dates:** This course will be offered primarily on-site unless pandemic regulations state otherwise. Detailed session information will be posted on moodle. Preliminary dates, each runs from 10.00-18.00. Most dates will include some time for your own projects and writings and individual feedback by course facilitators.

<b>Summer semester 2022</b>	
1 April 2022	Course introduction. Discussion of key concepts and of individual research projects for course
13 May 2022	"Relevance and Impact of research" (assignment #2).
1 July 2022	How do grand Challenges impact your own research (assignment #3).
22 July 2022	Theoretical and methodological considerations for impactful research
<b>Winter semester 2022/23</b>	
14 October 2022	Research responses to grand challenges – Blog entries (assignment #4).
11 November 2022	Researching for and with impact. Presentations and discussions of your own projects (assignment #6), identifying scope for improvement.
13 January 2023	Hybrid or virtual: Seminar with guest speaker/s on research collaborations towards relevance and impact
17 February 2023	Mini-conference (assignment #6, #7). If external guest reviewers, hybrid or virtual.

**Course reading:** The readings below are obligatory course readings.

- Alvesson, M., Gabriel, Y., & Paulsen, R. (2017). *Return to meaning: A social science with something to say*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- George, G., Howard-Grenville, J., Joshi, A., & Tihanyi, L. (2016). Understanding and Tackling Societal Grand Challenges through Management Research. *Academy of Management Journal*, 59(6), 1880-1895.
- Jones, E. B., & Bartunek, J. M. (2021). Too Close or Optimally Positioned? The Value of Personally Relevant Research. *Academy of Management Perspectives*, 35(3), 335-346.
- Kapasi, I., & Rosli, A. (2020). The practice of "we": A framework for balancing rigour and relevance in entrepreneurship scholarship. *Journal of Business Venturing Insights*, 14, e00202.
- Sharma, G., & Bansal, P. (2020). Cocreating Rigorous and Relevant Knowledge. *Academy of Management Journal*, 63(2), 386-410.
- Welter, F.; Urbano, D. (eds., 2020): *How to Make your Doctoral Research Relevant: Insights and Strategies for the Modern Research Environment*, Cheltenham, UK; Northampton, MA, USA: Edward Elgar Publishing, DOI: 10.4337/9781788977616
- Whitehurst, F., & Richter, P. (2018). Engaged scholarship in small firm and entrepreneurship research: Grappling with Van de Ven's diamond model in retrospect to inform future practice. *International Small Business Journal*, 36(4), 380-399.
- Wiklund, J., Wright, M., & Zahra, S. A. (2019). Conquering Relevance: Entrepreneurship Research's Grand Challenge. *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*, 43(3), 419-436.