**Academic Core Portfolio 2020-2022**

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| **Student name** |  | **Student number** |  |
| **Program** | Oncology / Cardiovascular Research | | |
| **Date** |  | | |

**Content**

**Academic Core year 1**

* Lecture ‘Introduction Academic Core’-  *September 2020*
* Lecture ‘Research Ethics’
* Life Sciences Career Day VU – not compulsory
* Professional Field guide interview
* Presenting Workshop – Tips & Tricks + Pitch your project – *Miriam van Strien, PhD*.
* Lectures at CCA (Oncology) / ACS (Cardiovascular Research) or other Institute(s) of your choice
* Rembrandt Symposium – (Cardiovascular Research only)
* CCA Symposium or other related symposium or conference (Oncology only)
* BCF Career Event –*May 2021*
* Reflection mentor meeting 1

**Academic Core year 2**

* CV / Application letter assignment
* Reflection mentor meeting 2

**Professional Field Guide & Role model seminar**

*Date:*

*Introduction*

Career orientation starts with two questions: What do I want (motivation / ambition) and what can I do (capacities / competencies). During our master program, you are trained to become a scientific researcher. A lot of our students would like to do a PhD after finishing the master Oncology or the master Cardiovascular Research but there is much more that you can do.

*Goal*

Learn about different possibilities for your future career in Oncology or Cardiovascular research.

*Information*

A selected group of students has to organize a role model seminar where we invite speakers from different professional fields such as e.g. someone that works at a biotech company, teaching at the university or HLO, a PhD student, postdoc, health inspector, clinical perfusionist or clinical research associate (CRA), etc.

In addition, a professional field guide will be composed filled with interviews of different role models. This assignment is for all students.

*Assignment (all students)*

You have to interview someone with a biomedical background about their career and current job. The goal is to create a file with differ professional fields. Therefore, it is advised to discuss with other students which person you will ask for the interview.

You need describe the following subjects:

* Career
* Current job
* Academic attitude
* Connection between education and current job
* Thing that they like and dislike about their jobs
* Future
* Advice to students

Email your interview to the master coordinator before the 1st of July 2021. Soon after, you will receive a pdf version of the complete booklet.

**Workshop presenting: Lecture ‘Tips & Tricks’ & ‘Pitch your project’**

*Date: Lecture during introduction Day and workshop in April / May 2021*

*Introduction*

When you give a (scientific) presentation, it is important to keep your audience riveted while speaking flawlessly. It is important to bring a clear message while feeling comfortable.

*Goal*

This workshop will help you to present your project in a way that is clear and easy to understand. After this workshop, you will feel more confident when presenting your research in English.

Learning goals of this course

After the course you will

* be able to prepare a presentation about your research
* know what the best structure is for your presentation
* know how to adapt the presentation to your audience
* know how to refer correctly
* know how to present your results correctly on the slides/poster
* be able to determine the main points of the story and present it in a maximum of 5 minutes
* be able to present the story clearly
* know what the best body language is
* be able to present the story clearly
* know how you can influence your audience
* be able to answer questions from the audience in a correct manner
* be able to formulate and receive feedback

*Information*

The workshop is scheduled on 2 days and given by dr. Miriam van Strien. During the first lecture on the introduction day, you will receive tips and tricks. Then, you have to prepare a poster or a short PowerPoint pitch (presentation) of max 5 minutes (max 7 slides) which will be discussed in smaller groups during the second meeting which will be organized in April or May 2021. The meetings will take place in the morning from 8.30 – 10.30h.

*Assignment*

For the second part of the course, you need to prepare a short pitch / presentation 5 minutes. Add your slides to your portfolio and describe the Tips and Tops of your presentation together with a short reflection.

**Visit lectures organized by e.g. CCA or ACS**

*Dates: …..*

*Introduction*The Cancer Center Amsterdam (CCA) and Amsterdam Cardiovascular Sciences (ACS) are organizing lectures that take place regularly. You can find these lectures on their websites:

ACS:

<http://www.amsterdamresearch.org/web/cardiovascular-sciences/events-5.htm>

CCA:

<https://www.amsterdamresearch.org/web/cancer-center-amsterdam/events.htm>

*Goal:*

Visiting the lectures, for example at CCA or ACS are very helpful in finding a research area that you like for your minor or major Internship or literature thesis. In addition, you will learn a lot about different types of research and expand your network. Furthermore, it is important to learn how to ask questions. Best way to learn this is just by doing.

*Assignment:* You have to visit a minimum of 4 lectures (of at least 2 invited speakers).Try to ask a question during each lecture. Formulate at least 1 question per lecture that you (could have) asked during the lectures. Please mention date and titles/organiser of the symposium. It is also possible to attend lectures outside the Amsterdam UMC research institutes, for example at NKI or Sanquin.

**Rembrandt Symposium – 20 November 2020 (CVR)**

*Introduction*

On 20 November 2020, the REMBRANDT SYMPOSIUM 2020 takes place. Normally, this would be at the Leeuwenhorst Conference Center in Noordwijkerhout but due to Corona measures this might be different this year.

This is a yearly symposium of the Rembrandt Institute of Cardiovascular Science (RICS) in which the research efforts on cardiovascular disease in Leiden (LUMC, LACDR) and Amsterdam (AMC, VUmc, Sanquin) are combined. The painter Rembrandt, who was born in Leiden and spent much of his working life also in Amsterdam, symbolizes the collaboration between Leiden and Amsterdam.

The meeting aims to exchange current research ideas and initiate novel collaborations. Last year there were more than 200 participants resulting in lively discussion and generations of new ideas and collaborations.

*Goal*

This event will be an important network opportunity which will give you the chance to orientate for a possible internship or to inform yourself about future career plans.

*More information and Registration:*

For more information and registration: <https://rembrandtinstitute.nl/>

*Assignment 1*

Check out the list of lectures before or during the Symposium and identify at least 3 lectures that you definitely want to attend. Prepare in advance a short essay why you chose to attend these lectures or workshop. What is it that triggered your attention or interest?

*Criteria: Size assignment ¼ - ½ A4 page per lecture, font size 11.*

*Assignment 2*

During the conference, you will see several lectures by prominent researchers in their fields. Describe 2 of the lectures you personally found the ‘best’. Describe the content of the lectures, but also why you thought these presentations stood above the others (clear slides, great presenter).

Think about your own presenting skills and write down at least 2 points you need to pay attention to with your own future presentations.

**Conference of your own choice (Oncology)**

*Date:*

*Introduction*

A conference aims to exchange current research ideas and initiate novel collaborations. You have to choose at least one conference of your interest of at least half a day. You will be informed about the different possibilities but can also come up with a conference / symposium of your own choice. . It is unknown yet if and when a Cancer Vaccine or Angiogenesis conference will be organized by the CCA. If so, our master oncology students will be involved in the organization and have to attend the conference.

*Goal*

The goal of this assignment is to experience presentations from prominent researchers and reflect on your own skills. Take extra note of the presenting skills of the invited researchers and think about what makes their presentation stand out.

We will inform you about conferences on CANVAS.

Some examples of last year:

ISCOMS (International Student Congress on Biomedical Sciences)

CCA retreat

Symposia on Immunology, colon cancer, breast cancer and other.

*Assignment 1*

Check out the list of lectures before or during the Symposium and identify at least 3 lectures that you definitely want to attend. Prepare in advance a short essay why you chose to attend these lectures or workshop. What is it that triggered your attention or interest?

*Criteria: Size assignment ¼ - ½ A4 page per lecture, font size 11.*

*Assignment 2*

During the conference, you will see several lectures by prominent researchers in their fields. Describe 2 of the lectures you personally found the ‘best’. Describe the content of the lectures, but also why you thought these presentations stood above the others (clear slides, great presenter).

Think about your own presenting skills and write down at least 2 points you need to pay attention to with your own future presentations.

*Criteria: Size assignment ½ 4 page per lecture, Font size 11.*

**BCF Career Event – September 2020 and May 2021?**

*Introduction*On September 2020, the BCF Career Event will take place in Utrecht. Normally, the event is organized in May. It is unknown at the moment if this will also be the case in 2021.

This is the largest career event in Life Sciences, Chemistry, Food and Pharma. More than 100 employers from the Life Sciences industry will be present to provide you with all the information and opportunities for your future career.

*Goal*This event will be an important network opportunity which will give you the chance to orientate for a possible internship or to inform yourself about future career plans.

*Registration*

On the website <https://www.bcfcareer.nl/BCF-Career-Event-NL>

Besides the BCF Career Event they offer also many other products within the Life Sciences, Chemistry, Food & Pharma. The BCF career guide is for everyone with a background in Bio, Chemistry, Food & Pharma who would like to know more about his or her future career perspectives. This guide is published twice a year and is the information source for a life sciences career. The guide contains profiles of companies that are active in these sectors, background articles and career advice of professionals in the field. Besides it provides information on the labour market. You can download the BCF career guide via the following link: <https://www.bcfcareer.nl/career-guide>

*Assignment* Write a report in which you describe at least 3 points of insight you gained during the event regarding your plans for your future career.

*Criteria: Size assignment 1 A4 page, font size 11.*

**Reflection mentor meeting 1**

*Date:*

*Criteria: +/- 1 A4 page , Font size 11*

This meeting is to obtain information for yourself, the second year of your master program and / or future career. Prepare some questions in advance and send them to your mentor.

You can think of:

* What would I like to do after my master program and does the mentor have some tips for you on how to prepare yourself in the best way?
* Some help with finding an interesting lab (abroad or in NL) for your major internship.
* How to arrange a supervisor for your literature study and what subject(s) do you like?
* You can discuss optional courses
* Planning issues?
* Tips for writing your thesis?
* ….

Send your CV in advance to your mentor and ask feedback to improve your CV during the meeting.

You can find a presentation with tips and tricks on CANVAS.

**CV assignment**

*Date:*

*Introduction*

Your Curriculum Vitae (resume): You can find so many conflicting recommendations. Should you keep it to one page? Do you add a summary and picture up top? Is it important to include personal interests and extra activities? This may be your best chance to make a good first impression, so you’ve got to get it right.

In addition, the first 20 words of your application letter are already very important to make a good impression.

*Information*

For this part of the Academic Core, you need do 3 assignments. In addition, a CANVAS course is developed and published on CANVAS in which you will learn tips and tricks for writing an application letter and CV and how to prepare for a job interview. Furthermore, we can schedule a workshop in which you can learn how to prepare yourself for a job interview.

***Please finish this assignment in the last months of your master. You have to start with the presentation on CANVAS and the test to prepare yourself for the assignment.***

*Assignment 1*

Update/write your *Curriculum Vitae* for a potential job in Cancer or Cardiovascular research (PhD position, industry etc). Include your major internship, also when you are not finished yet.

*Assignment 2*

Review the CV of one of your classmates. Assess its content but also its lay-out. Write at least 5 positive remarks and 5 points of improvement for feedback. Afterwards, check in your own CV if you can make improvements.

*Assignment 3*

Find a job description that you like. You can search on websites of Universities, companies, etc. and / or use [www.academictransfer.com](http://www.academictransfer.com). Write an application letter to a vacancy of your choosing.

During the final Academic Core meeting, your letter and CV will be discussed and you will receive feedback.

**Reflection mentor meeting 2**

*Criteria: +/- 1 A4 page , Font size 11*

*Date:*

This meeting is to obtain information for yourself. Prepare some questions in advance and send them to your mentor.

You can think of:

* What would I like to do after my masters and does the mentor have some tips for you on how to prepare yourself in the best way
* Where can I find interesting jobs
* You can discuss your CV
* What after a PhD?
* Building up a scientific network
* ….