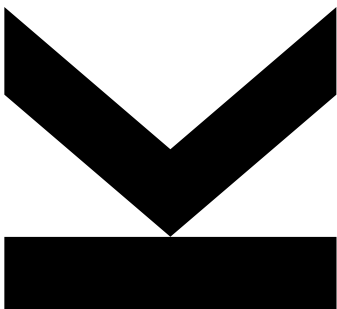


**PROFESSOR FOR
THE DIDACTICS OF
ECONOMIC EDUCATION**



INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

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1. The Johannes Kepler University Linz (Austria)

Firmly anchored in the region, the Johannes Kepler University Linz (JKU) also considers itself a university with a strong international outlook, pursuing an unwavering commitment to quality in research and education. The JKU aims to consistently move forward and advance to become one of Europe's top universities.

JKU researchers (approximately 170 professors and 2,700 academic employees) continuously pursue new knowledge and insight, deepening our insight in terms of what we know and understand today. The university also places great value on knowledge transfer, further deepening dialogue with members of society, the business community, and cultural establishments. As Upper Austria's largest research and educational institution, the JKU not only focuses on both education and research, but also on the regional and global challenges of our time, particularly those as outlined in the JKU's third mission (science with and for society).

Today, as an effectively positioned university, the JKU hones core skills and expertise in technology (engineering, computer sciences, natural sciences), social sciences, economics & business, education, law, and medicine. The JKU is predestined to engage in the academic and scientific challenges of our time, particularly in regard to digitalization and sustainability as well as values in support of diversity and inclusion. We not only foster a visionary approach, the JKU emphasizes and practices interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research and academics.

The JKU is strongly committed to supporting social responsibility that extends beyond research and education. For example, meat served at the university's award-winning cafeteria stems from organic farms. The university established the LIT Open Innovation Center on campus, a facility at the crossroads of academia, science, research, and real-world practices designed to support and bring about a circular economy and sustainable polymers. Recent campus enhancements complement the quality of university facilities, providing a contemporary infrastructure that not only inspires creativity, but also serves as a dynamic work, recreational, and living space for university employees, students and local residents alike.

We also offer a comprehensive onboarding process for new employees. Whether you are coming to the JKU from elsewhere in Austria or from abroad, our staff at the Office of Dual Career Services and at the JKU Welcome Center can assist to find housing, provide information about local schools and, of course, help your spouse or partner find suitable employment so everyone feels more quickly at home in Linz. The JKU aims to pursue its objectives and embrace the coming challenges by attracting students and faculty who also aspire to play a key role in contributing toward a future that not only supports technological advancement and progress, but a future that also serves the people and conserves the environment.

2. The Faculty of Social Sciences, Economics & Business

The Faculty of Social Sciences, Economics and Business is comprised of 35 institutes, making it the JKU's largest faculty JKU and the incubator from which the JKU emerged. The Faculty not only focuses on application-oriented research and education, but also offers several innovative joint degree programs and joint graduate degree programs, preparing students to actively drive areas in business and society forward as well as reflect on the social impact of their actions. The JKU is pleased to introduce the new Business School and the Rothschild School of Economics and Statistics, positioning the JKU as a contemporary contender in economic and business research. Interdisciplinary collaboration efforts and the use of modern technologies, such as data and evidence-based economics and AI, are allowing researchers to make important contributions in an effort to solve complex social and economic problems in a digitalized and globalized world.

The faculty is divided into four departments: Business Administration and Information Systems, Education and Psychology, Social and Cultural Sciences and Economics and Applied Statistics.

3. The Department of Education and Psychology and the Institute of Business and Vocational Education

The Department of Education and Psychology is home to the Institute of Psychology, which has four departments (Work, Organizational and Media Psychology; Health Psychology; Social Psychology, Human Resource Development and Adult Education; Business Psychology) and the Institute of Business and Vocational Education. Staff from the Department of Educational Research at the inter-faculty Linz School of Education are seconded to the department.

The professorship for Didactics of Economic Education is located at the Institute of Business and Vocational Education. This institute bears the main responsibility for the diploma course in economic education, which is currently attended by around 500 students, and also provides teaching services for the teacher training courses "Geography and Economic Education" and "Nutrition and Household". The research work at the institute is characterized by an unusual thematic breadth and, above all, by the fact that it reaches far into related and neighboring disciplines. Of particular importance are the subject areas of business didactics, professionalization of teachers, tacit knowledge and school performance assessment.

The professorship for the didactics of economic education is intended to expand the Institute's range of services. While economic education focuses primarily on the didactics of vocational economic education, the new professorship will focus on the didactics of general economic education.

4. The Professorship in the Didactics of economic education

The Austrian school system does not yet have an independent economics subject. General economic education takes place in an integrated subject "Geography and Economic Education". In addition, the interdisciplinary teaching principle of "economic and consumer education" calls on all subjects to provide economic education whenever the opportunity arises.

Unlike in Germany, where a "Bundesfachgruppe für Ökonomische Bildung" (today: "Deutsche Gesellschaft für ökonomische Bildung") was formed as early as 1978, the field of general economic education in Austria - apart from local and thematically limited research initiatives, e.g. at the Vienna University of Economics and Business (e.g. Financial Literacy, Prof. Fuhrmann) or at the Johannes Kepler University (e.g. Business Ethics, Prof. Neuweg) - has not yet been systematically addressed. There is not yet a dedicated chair for this subject in Austria, although there is a need for this:

- The field requires research. It is not just a matter of surveying the terrain in terms of the objectives and content of a contemporary general economic education that is tailored to Austrian conditions and developing effective teaching-learning arrangements. There is also a need for a broad-based inventory of the knowledge and skills of the Austrian population on the basis of valid measuring instruments and longitudinal monitoring of skills development. Austria's participation in the PISA additional module on financial literacy, which has now finally been realized, can only be a first step in this direction.
- Subject-specific and didactic training for teaching economics at general education schools can only take place at the height of scientific development and in the necessary breadth and depth if there are specialized chairs at which prospective economics teachers can study. Teachers in Austrian schools should not teach economics without a sound scientific and didactic education.
- One of the most important and efficient levers for increasing the quality of teaching is the development of both conventional and digital teaching media. Currently, the Austrian university landscape is not involved in any extensive, sustained activities in the area of general economic education.

Against this background, the establishment of a professorship for the didactics of economic education should form the starting point for the institutional anchoring of research and teaching in this important area in Austria.

Its task lies in the area of research and teaching in the central fields of economic education (entrepreneurship education, orientation in the professional and working world, consumer education, financial literacy, civic and economic education).

Their teaching resources should be made available to all teacher training courses that train teachers to teach economics or economics-related lessons. This applies in particular to students studying to

become teachers of geography and economic education and business education, as well as to teachers of an independent economics subject, should this be established in Austria in the future. It would be desirable for the Chair to be involved in the further training of teachers.

5. Financing background

The professorship is open-ended. It is funded by donors for the first five years, whereby the funding also includes a staffing. Funding partners are the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber, ERSTE Foundation, Sparkasse Oberösterreich, Fabasoft AG, the Province of Upper Austria, the Foundation for Economic Education, the Innovation Foundation for Education and the Federation of Austrian Industries Upper Austria.

6. General Requirements for the Professorship in the Didactics of economic education

6.1. Research and development

The post holder should be able to represent the field of general economic education (with the five areas of entrepreneurship education, orientation in the professional and working world, consumer education, financial literacy, civic and economic education) as broadly as possible, at an international level and with practical educational relevance. Efforts to establish a regular measurement of the economic competence of the Austrian population would be desirable, as would a commitment to the creation of materials for economics lessons, primarily at secondary level.

The following criteria in particular are used to assess qualifications in research and development:

- Relevant habilitation or equivalent qualification (didactics of economic education, business and vocational education and training)
- Publications in the field of didactics of economic education, especially in high-ranking journals, covering at least one, but preferably several of the five areas mentioned, as well as relevant scientific lecturing activities
- Quality of relevant completed and planned research projects, including success in acquiring third-party funding from national and international funding bodies and/or companies
- Experience in the development or evaluation of teaching materials for economics teaching

When assessing the candidates' accomplishments, performance, and future potential, the JKU will take the candidates' individual background and personal history into account by acknowledging that academic and professional success and accomplishments can happen at different stages in life (and

can include periods of reduced employment, or career interruption on account of having to provide care, childcare, etc.). In this regard, qualifications are assessed and evaluated in terms of equal opportunity, taking life-course factors, such as academic age, into account.

6.2. Teaching

The teaching resources of the professorship and the assigned post-doc position (four semester hours) will be made available to the degree programs in Business Education, Geography and Economic Education and Nutrition and Home Economics, as well as any other degree programs that may be relevant in the future. Some of the degree programs are offered in cooperation with the teacher training colleges in the so-called “Verbund Mitte”.

The already mentioned subject areas of entrepreneurship education, orientation in the professional and working world, consumer education, financial literacy as well as civic and economic education should be covered wherever possible.

The following criteria in particular are used to assess teaching qualifications

- Teaching experience in the areas mentioned
- Teaching quality, insofar as it is documented by evaluation results or teaching awards
- Experience in the supervision and assessment of student qualification work

6.3. Additional Requirements

The establishment of the professorship is essentially linked to the goal of anchoring the concerns and significance of a factual and multi-perspective economic education in the awareness of the wider public. The ability and willingness to cooperate with the educational administration, companies, social partners, the media, schools and cooperating educational institutions is therefore expected.

Communication and cooperation with different stakeholder groups is of great importance. The proactive communication of research results to the public is expressly desired.

Qualifications in this area are assessed on the basis of an interview with the appointment committee and a knowledge transfer statement. The following assessment criteria are used

- Extent and quality of previous cooperation with schools, educational administration, companies and social partners
- Previous experience in public relations and working with the media

An excellent command of the German language and a very good command of written and spoken English are required.

Willingness to take on administrative tasks and to participate in committees within the framework of academic self-administration is expected, the ability to manage an organizational unit is a prerequisite.

6.4. Activities – Significance and Time Span

A balance between research, teaching and independent administrative tasks is desired; approximately 40 % teaching, 40 % research, and 20 % to address department administrative tasks and responsibilities. The successful candidate is also expected to actively and independently participate in administrative committees at the university.

7. Legal Contingencies

Effective as of January 1, 2004, the structure of Austrian universities has been completely re-organized. They are independently financed on the basis of a three-year service level agreement with the Austrian government, have a global budget at their disposal, and are not subject to any directives by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research.

7.1. Terms of Employment

All terms of employment, including a university professorship, are subject to the Private Sector Employees Act. A work contract between the university and the appointed professor confirms the professor's appointment. The Salaried Employees Act and the collective agreement for university employees provide the legal framework for all related labor, social, and pension conditions. An evaluation of all teaching and research activities will be conducted after a 5-year period to assess the fulfillment of all target agreements.

7.2. Pension Regulations

7.2.1. Pension

A pension account at the Pension Insurance Company for Employees (PVA) provides the basis to calculate the amount of pension. All pension account holders are registered for annual partial credits during insurance periods in the amount of 1.78 % of the annual contribution basis and these are capped at the maximum assessment basis. The sum of the partial credits is the total credits that are re-valued annually. The total credit divided by 14 equals the amount of gross monthly pension. More information about the pension you receive directly from the state, please contact the PVA.

7.2.2. Company Pension Fund for University Professors

In compliance with the Universities Act 2002, a special pension scheme is provided for university professors and has been agreed upon in a Collective Agreement. The contribution payment made by the university is 10 % for the set minimum salary as stated in the collective agreement. Voluntary salary payments agreed upon aside from the collective agreement minimum salary are not a part of the base calculation of the contribution payments.

8. Salary

The amount of the minimum salary for Group A 1 (Professorship) has been determined in the collective agreement for university employees and is a gross annual salary of 89,075.00 Euros per year (last update: 2024). Payment is allocated in 14 equal amounts, whereby two parts are special allocated payments.

The position provides a provision (on a voluntary basis) to agree on a salary over the minimum salary set by the collective agreement

After a positive evaluation every six years – 4 times in total – there will be an advance to the next pay grade in accordance to the salary bracket in collective agreement for job category A 1.

9. Application Procedure

Prospective applicants for the professorship position are requested to send the following application and requested documentation in electronic form to: application@jku.at.

9.1. General Information

- Applicant form
- Letter of Intent (1 page)
- Tabular Curriculum Vitae
- Academic diplomas (Doctorate, Post-Doctorate [Habilitation])

9.2. Research

- List of publications, organized according to the five subject areas mentioned, if necessary adding a section "Other"; please also highlight the three publications you consider most important and give reasons for your selection
- List of presentations

- Overview of research projects carried out
- Overview of any previous involvement in the development or evaluation of teaching materials
- Research concept for the coming years (max. three pages)

9.3. Teaching

List of courses held to date

- Evaluation results and efforts to further develop teaching
- List of university didactic training events and activities, if applicable
- List of Master's or diploma theses supervised to date and, if applicable, dissertations and habilitations, structured according to the five subject areas mentioned

9.4. Miscellaneous

- Statements on the ability and willingness to fulfill the requirements listed in 6.3 in the form of a knowledge transfer statement (statements on the connection and integration of one's own work in society and the interests of the various stakeholder groups, max. two pages)

10. Information

If you have any questions about the position, please contact Univ. Prof. Dr. Georg Hans Neuweg (+43 (732) 2468 726, georg.neuweg@jku.at).