**Title:** “Workshop in Empirical Asset Pricing”

R**esponsible and department:** Lars A. Løchstøer, Columbia University

**Semester:** Fall 2014

**Language:** English

**Prerequisites (needed):** PhD level course in asset pricing theory, PhD level course in econometrics or time-series statistics, PhD level course in Empirical Asset Pricing.

**Learning outcomes:**

# Participants will be introduced to the research frontier in empirical asset pricing by reading and discussing recent research papers. The workshop requires previous knowledge of the classic literature in empirical asset pricing, including a solid understanding of factor models, time-series and cross-sectional regressions, and the Generalized Method of Moments. The workshop has two main parts. In the first part, we will discuss recent research in empirical asset pricing with a particular focus on the effects of financial frictions. The goal is to give students an overview of what the current outstanding questions are in the field. The second part of the workshop is centered on student presentations of their own (preliminary) research. Each student will present their own research, which then will be discussed by the students and the lecturer. The goal here is to give each student valuable feedback on both the presentation itself and on the research project in a friendly environment.

# *Knowledge - The candidate...*

* is in the forefront of knowledge within contemporary topics in empirical asset pricing
* can evaluate the expediency and application of different methods and processes for conducting empirical research in this area
* can contribute to the development of new knowledge, new theories and methods in empirical asset pricing

# *Skills – The candidate...*

# can formulate problems, plan and carry out empirical research within the domain of empirical asset pricing

* can carry out research and scholarly research work of a high international standard and be able to publish in international peer reviewed finance journals
* can handle complex academic issues and challenge established knowledge in asset pricing

# *Competence - The candidate...*

* can identify the marginal contribution of their research carry out his/her research with scholarly integrity
* can communicate research in empirical asset pricing and actively participate in debates in the field in national and international scholarly forums

**Topics:**

The workshop is based on recent research papers and the main topic will be on the cross-section and time-series of stock returns, foreign exchange anomalies (such as carry trade returns), commodity markets. In addition, the students’ own research papers in the general area of empirical asset pricing will be discussed.

**Literature:**

The workshop is based on selected articles from top-tier finance and economics journals, as well as recent notable working papers in empirical asset pricing.

**Teaching:**

The workshop will consist of a combination of lectures and discussion where participation in discussions are important for all workshop participants.

**Computer requirements / Tools:** It is assumed that all interested students are facile with MatLab, Stata, etc.

**Other remarks:**