Job Market in UK and Europe

May Darwich
1. Understanding UK Universities

- Ancient Universities (Oxford, Cambridge, Durham, Edinburgh, St Andrews)
- Redbrick universities (Birmingham, Leeds, Manchester, etc.)
- Plate glass universities (Warwick, Essex, etc.)
- Post-1992 (Nottingham Trent, Sunderland, etc.)

Russell Group Universities (24 Uni)
1. Understanding UK Universities
Types of Academic Jobs

• Postdoctoral Fellowships
  • Oxbridge
  • Leverhulme Trust Early Career
  • British Academy
  • ESRC Postdoc

• Teaching Fellowships (sometimes Associate Lecturer)

• Lectureship (= Assistant Professor)
• Lectureship teaching focused – (only 20% research)
Situation with COVID

• Lectureships are now frozen (but not forever!)

• Postdoctoral fellowships (especially from the BA and Research Councils are open)

• Teaching fellowships are most likely to be announced as the academic year starts!
2. Job Applications

• Cover Letter (up to 2 and half pages)
• CV

• Cover letter – response to the specifications in the job ad!!!
• Make sure you do your research – REF/TEF/teaching innovation/diversity/inclusivity
• Use British terms (module not course; term not semester; etc.)

• Publications, publications, publications!!!
2. Job Applications

Interview

• Invitation is often short-noticed (7-14 days)
• 15-minute presentation (or a lecture for a teaching-focused job)
• 30-40 mn interview
• Panels: HoD, Faculty/College, HR, 1-2 academics from the department

• DO YOUR RESEARCH about the department, future colleagues, REF, TEF!
Job Market in Europe

• Post-doctoral fellowships on projects

• Several post-docs

• Every European country has its own academic norms and culture

• Funding (European Research Council!)