

Seminar on career development

D. Nadal-Sala, S. Sabaté

Department of Evolutionary Biology, Ecology and Environmental Sciences. University of Barcelona, and CREA F

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D_nadal@ub.edu

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■ Objectives of the talk

- ✓ To discuss the good practices when applying for a job
- ✓ To identify individual competences' strengths and weaknesses when applying for a job.
- ✓ To provide an overview on the main employers and career development opportunities.

■ First, some good news

AQU employment questionnaire on Master students on Environmental Sciences

Year: 2023

Sample size: ~ 120 people

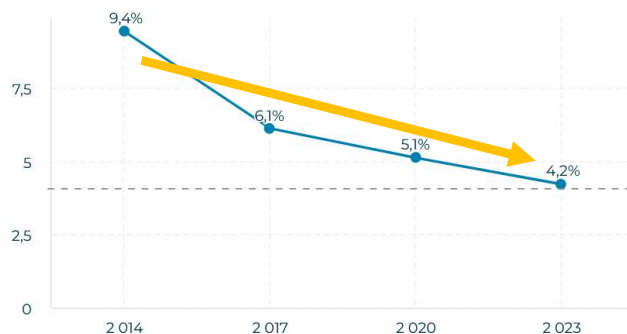
Ciències Ambientals

Estatus i adequació

| | 1 Estatus laboral | | | 2 Funcions desenvolupades | | | 3 Índex IQO | 4 Satisfacció feina |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| | 1 Ocupat/ada | 2 Aturat/ada | 3 Inactiu/iva | 1 Específiques | 2 Universitàries | 3 No universitàries | 0 Mitjana | 0 Mitjana |
| Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona | 90,0% | 8,6% | 1,4% | 61,4% | 28,6% | 10,0% | 65,2 | 7,9 |
| Universitat de Barcelona | 87,2% | 5,1% | 7,7% | 48,7% | 46,2% | 5,1% | 64,3 | 7,9 |
| Total dels centres mostrats | 89,0% | 7,3% | 3,7% | 56,9% | 34,9% | 8,3% | 64,9 | 7,9 |

> Taxa d'atur en mínims històrics per a les persones titulades de màster.

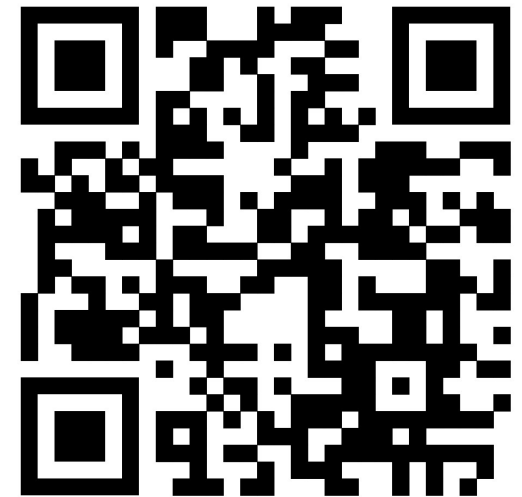
Evolució de la taxa d'atur de les persones titulades en màster (sobre persones actives)



~ 90% of MS working
Decreasing unemployment

■ Activity one (5 minutes)

- ✓ What are the most important aspects when applying for a job?
- ✓ Let's share your thoughts in the Miro board...



■ Some Pro advises

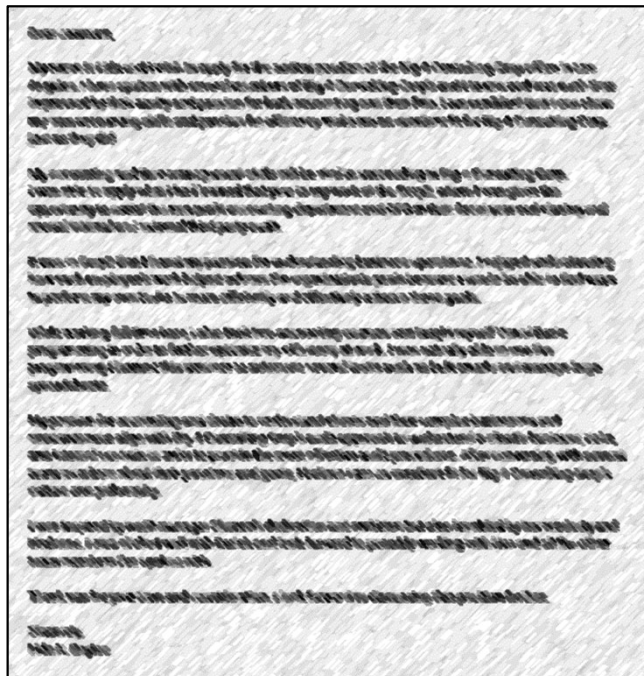
1. Read over the job application.
2. Use a professional name and email address.
3. Follow the instructions.
4. Tailor your cover letter to the job. (!!!)
5. Include keywords in your resume.
6. Check your responses for errors.
7. Track your applications when applying for multiple jobs.
8. Tidy your social media profiles.
9. (Bonus track) Ask for help to a friend or colleague.

■ Put effort in the cover letter!

1. Do your research first on the company.
2. Focus it on the future.
3. Open strong.
4. Emphasize your personal value.
5. Convey enthusiasm. Do not over-reach.
6. Watch the tone.
7. Keep it short.
8. Get feedback. (see as Ask for help!)

■ Put effort in the cover letter!

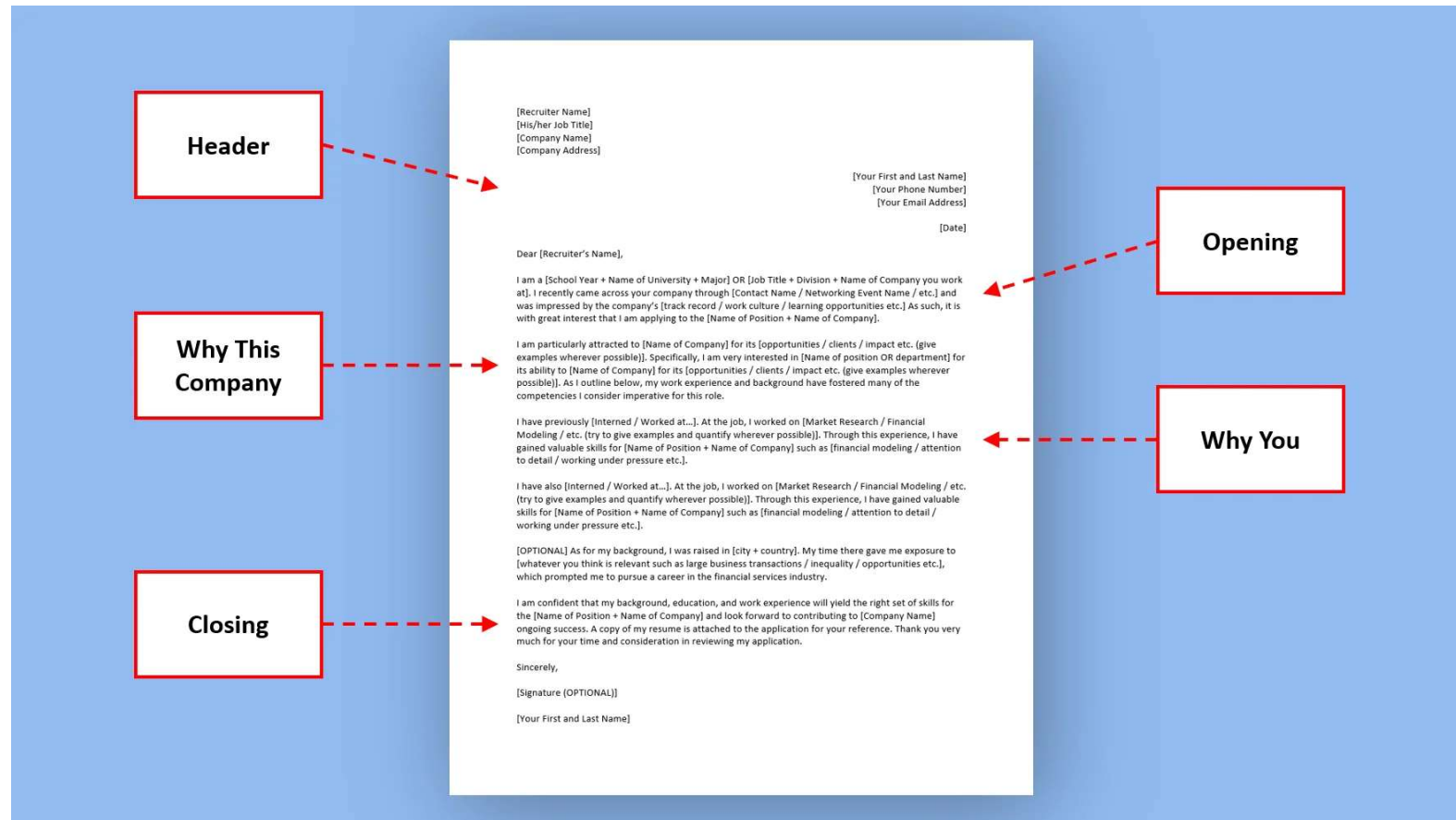
What you see



What they see



■ Put effort in the cover letter!



■ Update frequently you CV

- ✓ It takes time to update your CV, so do it regularly before there is the urgency

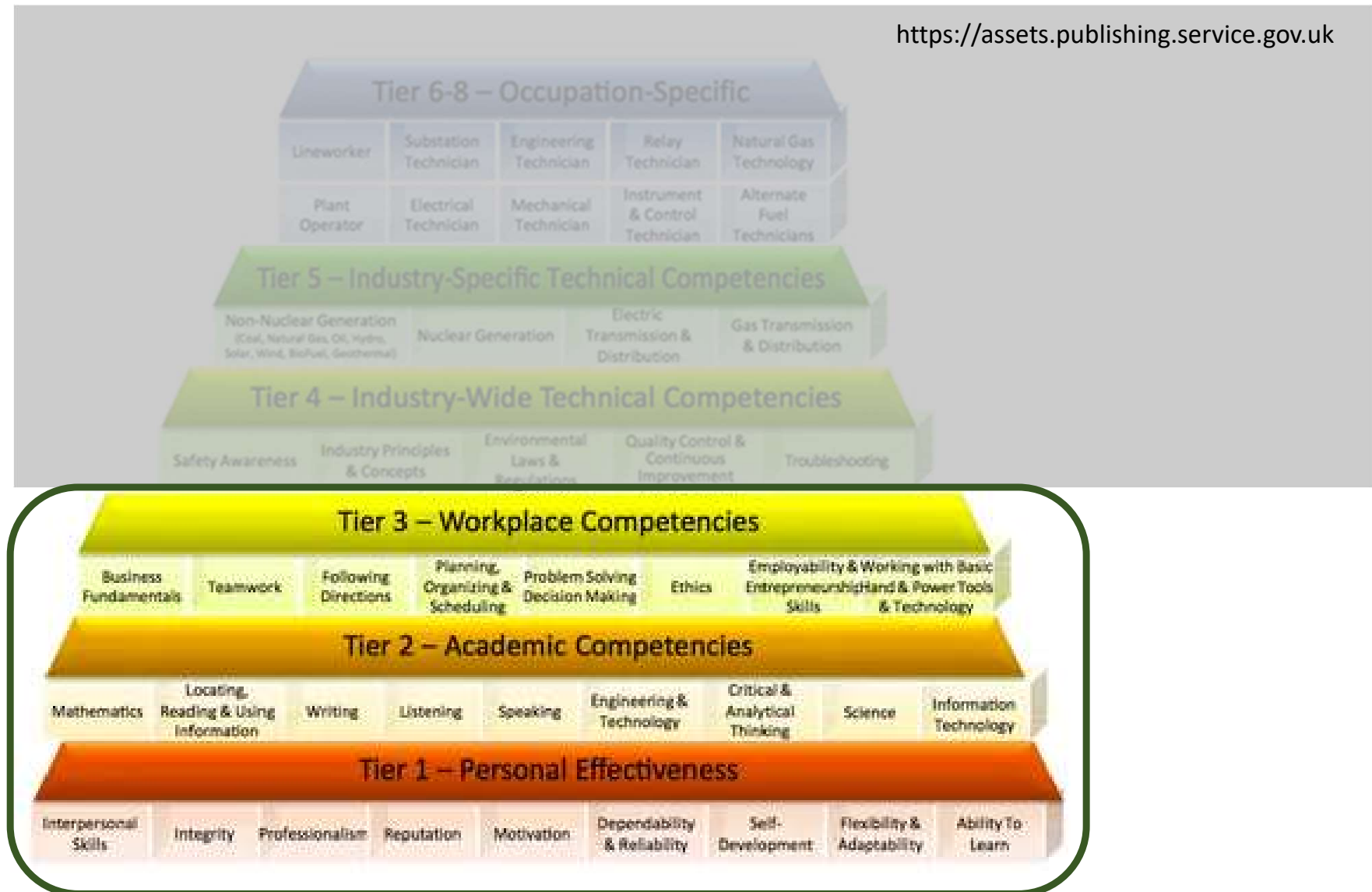


■ Think about your skills and competences

- ✓ **Skills:**
- ✓ Skills are specific abilities you can learn or gain a qualification in to improve your performance or become qualified to do a certain job.
 - ✓ Use 'action' words such as achieved, awarded, organized, led, assisted, managed, increased, developed, built or won.
 - ✓ Use positive words to describe yourself and your achievements such as accurate, willing to learn, organized, hardworking, dependable, motivated or creative.
- ✓ **Competences: ([link](#))**
- ✓ Competencies are the behaviors and knowledge that enable you to apply your skills and be successful in a job
 - ✓ Truthful and based on fact
 - ✓ Follow STAR (Situation – Task – Action – Result) structure.
 - ✓ Keep them short!

■ Think about your skills and competences

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk>



We will be focusing on these, here

■ Writing appropriated competences:

Examples:

| Don't say | Say this instead |
|---|--|
| A spreadsheet was set up to show where delays were occurring. | I devised a spreadsheet and compiled data so I could identify where delays were occurring. |
| The spreadsheet showed that delays were occurring at the same times each week, so we discussed this during a problem solve. | After collecting and analysing the data, I identified a pattern of delays. I carefully considered who was affected and invited representatives from across the processing areas to a problem solve. |

~~Realización de inventarios forestales con parcelas de pino silvestre, para la asignatura del màster en Conservación de la Universidad de Barcelona, usando la técnica de los transectos lineales, en distintas parcelas.~~

He **realizado** inventarios forestales en el Máster en Conservación para **evaluar** cómo la gestión forestal modifica los **stocks de CO₂**, **centrándome** en el pino silvestre.

■ Activity two (10 minutes)

- ✓ Think about the skills and competences you would highlight
- ✓ Select three of them. Write them down and ubicate them in (Miro board)



■ What do potential employers search?



5 answers out of ~ 115 polls sent

■ And last (but not least): ask for help!



■ Potential employers:

Public sector

Regional institutions
Natural parks
State forestry
Rangers
Fire-fighters
(...)

Private sector

Environment consultants
Lab technicians
Environmental technicians
Environment education
(...)

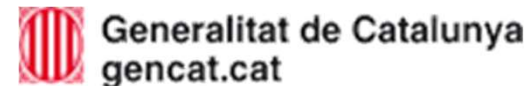
Research

State grants
Research teams
 ▶ *Universities*
 ▶ *Research centers*
Field technicians
(...)

■ Public sector (administration)

- ✓ Medium wages
- ✓ Possibility to promote at work
- ✓ Laboral stability (often permanent positions)
- ✓ Highly competitive job applications (many aspirants)
- ✓ Job availability depending on political goals

<https://forestalcatalana.gencat.cat/es>



<https://cido.diba.cat/>



https://interior.gencat.cat/ca/arees_dactuacio/bombers/borses-de-treball-de-la-dgpeis/

GRAF (Grup d'Actuació Forestal)
Bombers (merit):

■ Public sector (research centers)

- ✓ Medium wages
- ✓ Possibility to promote at work
- ✓ Networking

- ✓ Mostly temporary contracts (Multi-task)
- ✓ Job availability dependent on project availability

<https://www.creaf.cat/ca/borsa-de-treball>



<https://www.ctfc.cat/borsa.php>



<https://borsatreball.irta.cat/>



■ Official colleges (Environmentalists)

- ✓ Training opportunities + certification
- ✓ Large amount of job offers
- ✓ Networking

- ✓ Annual fee
- ✓ Usually do not hire personnel directly



<https://cbiolegs.cat/sortides-professionals-dels-biolegs/>



<https://www.coamb.cat/es/ocupacion/bolsa-de-trabajo/>

■ Private sector

- ✓ Medium wages
- ✓ Multiple career development opportunities
- ✓ Not many specialized job offers at the start
- ✓ Job availability depending on economy

BCN regional (environmental advisors)

<https://www.bcnregional.com/definicio/>

**Directori de les consultories
i enginyeries ambientals**

Be Circular group 381 (circular economy)

<https://economiacircular381.org/>

Fundació Pau Costa (environmental education, conservation)

<https://www.paucostafoundation.org/>

Naturalea (conservation, restoration, research, nature-based solutions)

<https://naturalea.eu/es/>

■ Be aware of...

- ✓ **Sharks** (job exploitation) -> e.g. *Infojobs*
- ✓ **Snakes** (unreliable job offers) -> e.g. *Mail offers*
- ✓ **Gold for free** (a.k.a. *duros a quatre peles*) -> e.g. *Mail offers*
- ✓ **Wasting time** (some job offers may be owned)
 - ✓ *If the requirements are too specific (public sector)*
 - ✓ *If the schedule is too tight*
- ✓ **Wasting money** (do not invest “*a priori*”) -> e.g. *Online courses*

■ It is worth knowing about:

- ✓ X (former Twitter)
- ✓ © LinkedIn
- ✓ Researchgate (research)
- ✓ ORCHID ID (research)

