

The professional profile of PhD-holders

Cédric Accard

Astrophysicist

Hi! I'm Cédric, a PhD student in Astrophysics at the Observatoire Astronomique de Strasbourg. My work is focused on the star formation relations and processes in high-redshift galaxies.

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Core business

PHASE 1 Skill development

*Sets his professional goals to be ambitious yet realistic.
Identifies and develops means to enhance his employability throughout his career; manages his professional development.
Broadens and upgrades his skillset, personal qualities and achievements.
Uses his networks to expand his scope of competence.
Knows how to transfer his expertise to other fields of activity.
Realizes the necessarily international dimension of his career path.
Accepts input from a mentor or coach to benefit his professional development.*

PHASE 1 Evaluation

*Evaluates the value of various documents concerning his field of expertise.
Is able to judge his own results in terms of both quality and added value.
Is willing to expose ideas to a critical audience; takes others' opinions of his work into account.
Is willing to evaluate the work of other contributors and provides reasoned, realistic judgments of others' work.*

PHASE 1 Information management

*Knows how to review the state of the art (SOTA) in a scientific topic.
Makes efficient use of information-gathering methods, identifies pertinent resources, particularly bibliographic resources.
Masters web-based research (e.g., bibliographic databases, patent databases)
Knows how to judge the pertinence of information, critique sources and check source reliability.
Designs and implements information-gathering and management systems using suitable technology.
Addresses issues relating to the security and life cycle of data.
Seeks out support from experts in information and data management.*

PHASE 1 Expertise and methods

*Masters the basic knowledge and key concepts of his field and knows their history and their significance.
Is familiar with recent progress in his field.
Can view his research activities within an international context.*

Personal and relational qualities

PHASE 1 Communication

Is familiar with the investigative methods and techniques of his field (including mathematics and statistics) and can explain why they are appropriate for a given purpose.
Is able to consider alternative methods and techniques.
Is able to formulate problems and hypotheses according to needs.
Defends his research findings in a constructive manner; provides evidence to support his ideas and proposals.
Organizes his presentations in a clear, informative and concise manner.

PHASE 1 Analysis, synthesis and critical thinking

Analyzes his own findings and those of his peers.
Is able to synthesize; expresses key ideas clearly.
Can sort and rank information according to the goal.
Pursues his reasoning and hypotheses free of dogmatism or ideological bias.
Has the objectivity to consider various schools of thought; is able to modify his point of view.
Demonstrates intellectual rigor.

PHASE 1 Open-mindedness and creativity

Demonstrates an ability to acquire knowledge; shows flexibility and open-mindedness. Engages in interdisciplinary activities.
Possesses a constructive style of questioning and scientific doubt.
Develops, takes ownership of and tests new ideas; is clever; seizes opportunities.
Interacts with and seeks the collaboration of professionals of different cultures; knows how to accommodate cultural differences.

PHASE 1 Integrity

Respects the standards and practices of his entity.
Demonstrates integrity in the processing and dissemination of data.
Demonstrates integrity with respect to his partners' or competitors' contributions in accordance with intellectual property rules.
Upholds the confidentiality and anonymity of subjects taking part in studies and research.
Honors his commitments and ensures the congruence between actions and words.
Declares any conflict of interest.

PHASE 1 Balance

Is aware of his aptitudes, knows how to take advantage of them and demonstrate them.
Expresses himself relevantly, confidently and didactically.
Recognizes the limits of his knowledge, skills and expertise, and knows where to find support when needed.
Is able to consider his practices and experience as part of the bigger picture.

*Develops his strengths and knows how to correct his weaknesses by seeking the opinion of others.
Is aware of the need to reconcile career and personal life.
Develops mechanisms to cope with pressure and seeks support when needed.*

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