

**Assignment form I Lab 2021-2022**  
**Outreaching program, Tilburg University**

**Main characteristics**

<u>Title of lab</u>	What's your story? Different types of discrimination experienced by students at Tilburg University.
<u>Professor/Lab supervisor:</u>	Åsa Ekvall (UN Women Netherlands / Ekvall Consulting)
<u>Name of the chair</u>	
<u>General information</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will receive skills and research training in several Modules and Searl meetings.</li> <li>• Dutch speaking students and English speaking students</li> <li>• Different disciplines</li> </ul>
<u>Number of students</u>	Multiple groups of 5 students each
<u>Period</u>	September 2021 – June 2022
<u>Effort per student</u>	~80h/student
<u>Effort for supervisor</u>	Preparations, teaching of the research method, bi-weekly meetings the first two months to get them started, then monthly meetings, reading of drafts, help with dissemination.
<u>Final presentation</u>	A Report to be disseminated on as many platforms as possible, a presentation (virtual if necessary), and an article in Univers.
<u>Background of the project</u>	<p>Most studies, including those on discrimination, use tradition quantitative and qualitative methods, surveys and interviews. The problem with those methods is that you only get answers to the questions you ask, i.e. leaving possible unintended gaps in knowledge just because the researcher didn't ask all the questions possible. There are many ways a person can be discriminated against, and many reasons for it, be it gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, being an exchange student and not speaking the local language etc. This study will use the Sprockler method of story-telling to cast a wide net around the question of discrimination and generate both quantitative and qualitative data to see who gets discriminated against, why and how. The Sprockler method can also be useful for the students later on in their academic career.</p>
<u>Problem statement</u>	<p>Discrimination for various reasons is one of the world's most pervasive problems and has not only an impact on people's professional possibilities in life but also on the victim's personal life and mental health. To better understand who gets discriminated against at Tilburg University, why and</p>

how, will help developing counter-measures to make the university a more inclusive space for everyone.

#### Stakeholders

- The students participating in the honours program
- All students at the university (as participants)
- The University of Tilburg (as obviously wanting to make their university as inclusive as possible)
- Academics working on discrimination
- UN Women Netherlands

#### Research approach

- The students will first be taught the Sprockler research method and get the necessary tools. See <https://www.sprockler.com/>
- Participants will be recruited to tell their stories of discrimination which will be recorded with the Sprockler method.
- The qualitative and quantitative data generated will be analysed and a report written.

#### Final reporting

- A final presentation will take place, online or in real life, of the results of the study.
- A final report, including the visualization of the data generated by Sprockler, will be made in the shape of an academic article and disseminated to as many platforms as possible, including UN Women. A short version will be published in Univers.

#### Organizational issues

In general, students are expected to work independently, cooperate well in a team and to be highly organized and motivated. There will be several trainings and meetings in which the Sprockler method will be taught and the general aim of the study will be explained during the first two months (September/October), monthly meetings with the supervisor after that and an end presentation. More meetings will be planned, if needed, and there will be e-mail, whatsapp, zoom and phone contact during the full term. Between the meetings, students will work independently or together with group members.