

NAME OF THE COURSE	METHODOLOGY OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH					
Course professor	Silvia Golem, Full Professor	Credits (ECTS)		6		
Associates		Method of teaching (number of hours)	Guided process of teaching			
			L	S	E	F
			20		20	
			Independent student activities			
			30%			
Status of the course /educational activity	Mandatory	E-learning percentage of application		30%		
COURSE DESCRIPTION						
Course/educational activity objectives	The course aims to provide students with the skills and capabilities to undertake business research. Throughout the course, students will gain knowledge of the fundamental research concepts and methods applicable to their own research.					
Course/educational activity enrolment requirements and entry competences required	None					
Learning outcomes expected at the level of course/educational activity (4 to 10 outcomes)	<p>Completing this course/educational activity, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> develop an understanding of how a business research is carried out, to compare different research paradigms, examine strengths and weaknesses of competing approaches in the context of a student research project identify different stages of the process of business research and understand the importance of ethical issues associated with the conduct of business research compare different types of research approaches and assess their adequacy in relation to a specific research question apply basic principles of critical literature review develop and formulate clear and concise research questions undertake an independent literature search using a range of methods, identify key words, evaluate the relevance, value and sufficiency of the literature found; use and reference the literature accurately in the context of the critical literature review differentiate various types of data, measurement scales, and undertake an independent data search and collection of secondary data, and use tools to create questionnaires 					
Course/educational activity's syllabus broken down in detail by weekly class schedule	Lectures		Exercises			
		Topic	Hours	Topic	Hours	
	1	The nature of business research. Importance and scope of economic research.	2	Ethics in business research. Research ethics throughout the research process. Plagiarism.	2	
	2	Research approaches and research design. Generating and refining research ideas. Turning research ideas into research project. Research topic. Research structure and stages.	2	Practical exercise: in small groups, students generate and refine research ideas	2	
	3	Critical review of the literature. Planning and conducting the literature search. Obtaining and evaluating literature.	2	Practical exercise: in small groups, students read, compare and assess different examples of Literature Reviews	2	
	4	Sampling. Selecting samples. Probability sampling. Non-probability sampling.	2	Practical exercise: students gather economic data through relevant economic data sources	2	
	5	Differences between qualitative and quantitative data.	2	"Setting the stage" for data analysis	2	
	6	Questionnaires. Designing the questionnaire. Administering the questionnaire.	2	Practical exercise: students create on-line questionnaire using appropriate on-line tools	2	
	7	Interviews. Types of interviews. Preparing for the interview and	2	Practical exercise: students create	2	

	interviewing competence.		interviews using appropriate tools		
	8 Secondary data. Data bases. Where to find and how to obtain secondary data?	2	Practical exercise: students gather economic data through relevant economic data sources	2	
	9 Analysis of quantitative data. Preparing, inputting and checking data. Descriptive statistics.	2	Practical exercise: using real economic data and relevant econometric software students produce data description and estimate basic causal relationships	2	
	10 Research results. How to present the obtained research results? Discussion. Academic writing style.	2	How to write and present a student project. Practical exercise: Two-page literature review	2	
Format of instruction	<input type="checkbox"/> lectures <input type="checkbox"/> seminars <input type="checkbox"/> workshops <input type="checkbox"/> exercises <input type="checkbox"/> <i>on line</i> in entirety <input type="checkbox"/> partial e-learning <input type="checkbox"/> field work		<input type="checkbox"/> independent assignments <input type="checkbox"/> multimedia <input type="checkbox"/> laboratory <input type="checkbox"/> work with mentor <input type="checkbox"/> group assignments		
Student responsibilities	Students taking this course are expected to attend classes and to complete the assigned tasks (individual, i.e. write Literature Review and group tasks organized during classes). Regular class attendance is expected of all students taking this course - students are required to attend lectures at least 50% of total lectures held. Students who have not passed the mid-term exam are expected to take the end-term written exam.				
Student work-participation (<i>name the proportion of ECTS credits for each activity, so that the total number of ECTS credits matches the ECTS value of the course/educational activity</i>)	Class attendance	1	Research	Practical Work	2
	Experimental work		Workshop	Group assignments	1
	Essay		Seminar paper	(Other, specify what)	
	Tests		Oral exam	(Other, specify what)	
	Written exam	2	Project	(Other, specify what)	
Grading and evaluating student work and accomplishments	The end-term written exam is an alternative to mid-term exams. The final grade is calculated as follows: - average result of the two positively marked mid-term exams, multiplied by 0.7 - average result of the individual Literature review exercise, multiplied by 0.3 Points scores and grades: 0-49 fail (1) 50-62 pass (2) 63-75 good (3) 76-87 very good (4) 88-100 excellent (5)				
Required literature	<u>Required:</u> Saunders, M. N. K., Lewis, P. & Thornhill, A. 2009. Research Methods for Business Students, 8th ed. Essex: Prentice Hall. ISBN 9781292208787. Boumans, M. & Davis, J. B. 2010. Economic Methodology: Understanding Economics as a Science. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. ISBN 9781137545558. Wallace, M. & Wray, A., 2011. Critical Reading and Writing for Postgraduates. 2nd ed. London: SAGE Publications Ltd. ISBN 978-1-84920-561-0. <u>Additional:</u> Angrist, J. D., & Pischke, J. S. 2009. Mostly harmless econometrics: An empiricist's companion. London: Princeton university press. ISBN 9780691120355. Brace, I. 2018. Questionnaire design: How to plan, structure and write survey material for effective market research. 2nd ed. London: Kogan Page Publishers. ISBN 978 0 7494 5028 1. Kennedy, P. 2008. A guide to econometrics. 6th ed. Oxford: John Wiley & Sons.. Backhouse, R. E. 2010. The Puzzle of Modern Economics: Science or Ideology?. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ISBN 9780511780196.				

	<p>Gustavii, B. 2008. How to Write and Illustrate a Scientific Paper. 2nd ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press ISBN 9780511808272.</p> <p>World Bank - world development indicators: https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators</p> <p>Eurostat database: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database</p> <p>Lars P. Syll's blog: https://larspsyll.wordpress.com/</p>
--	---