



Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
MIR-695DE	Thesis I	10
Prerequisites	Department	Semester
None	Politics and Governance	3 rd
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Elective	International Relations	English
Level of Course	Lecturer(s)	Year of Study
2 nd Cycle	Dr. Odysseas Christou	2 nd
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Corequisites
Distance Learning	N/A	N/A

Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the course are to:

- Familiarize students with the logic and methods of social science research.
- Provide students with solid empirical, theoretical and normative foundations for the understanding of social science research in general and research in international relations in particular.
- Introduce students to the research design methodologies of conceptualization and operationalization so as to contribute to their ability to understand, interpret and explain the main theories in their specific research field.
- Develop students' necessary skills to design and conduct their own research and to participate in and contribute to academic knowledge.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

- Demonstrate extensive knowledge of research methods used in the fields of International Relations in particular and Social Sciences more generally.
- Present a thorough understanding of the complexity of the study area and its relationship to other adjacent research areas.
- Critically analyze the scope of research application in this research area.
- Communicate in the English language both orally and in written form at a high level of competence as necessary for the design and conduct of research.
- Utilize computer skills (word processing, Internet use and e-mail) as study and

communication tools.

- Demonstrate learning skills that will enable them to participate in research of international phenomena with minimal supervision.
- Make effective use of library resources, bibliographic sources and other existing academic research.

Course Content:

Introduction to Method and Social Science
Doing Social Research
Theory and Research
Ethics in Social Research
The Literature Review
Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches
Sampling Approaches
Survey Research
The Experiment
Nonreactive Research and Secondary Analysis
Analysis of Qualitative Data and Field Research

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lecture, online discussion, individual work and tutoring, analysis of case studies.

Assessment Methods:

Interim individual studies, final project, online forum interaction

Readings:

Burns, Robert B. 2000. Introduction to Research Methods. Sage Publications.

Klotz, Audie, and Deepa Prakash, ed. 2008. Qualitative Methods in International Relations: A Pluralist Guide. Palgrave Macmillan.

Neuman, Lawrence W. 2013. *Social Research Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. Pearson.

Van Evera, Stephen. 1997. *Guide to Methods for Students of Political Science*. Cornell University Press.