ECTS Syllabus

Course title	Research Methodology				
Course code	MPA-560DE				
Course type	Elective (compulsory for those who will select Thesis)				
Level	Master/2nd Cycle				
Year / Semester	1st/2nd				
Teacher's name	Dr. G. Charalambous				
ECTS	10	**Lectures / week**	1	**Laboratories / week**	
Course purpose and objectives	The main purpose of the course is to help students understand and apply research methodologies in the field of public governance. Students shall develop the necessary skills that will enable them to conduct primary and secondary research. They will also study and apply the fundamental ethical rules governing scientific study. Students will also acquire the necessary knowledge and skills that will allow them to elaborate, interpret and present the findings of the research. The course promotes the most essential practices of conducting scientific research and presents methods that lead to the production of valid scientific results and policy recommendations. The main objectives of the course are: • To provide the required guidance and tools for conducting sound scientific research. • To develop the main methods for producing qualitative and quantitative surveys by providing the necessary knowledge for sample selection, questionnaire, interviewing, questionnaire testing, data analysis and commentary on research findings. • To provide the required cognitive background so that students will be able to choose between alternative research methods in accordance with the nature of the research issues they will be dealing with. • To help students to develop the necessary skills that will make them able to define research problem and set the basic questions of an inquiry.				

	• To help students to develop the appropriate qualitative and quantitative techniques for academic research. • To introduce the most important digital data processing and statistical analysis tools.		
Learning outcomes	Upon completion of the course, students will be expected to be able to: 1. Understand the fundamental concepts, procedures and objectives of scientific research. 2. Design and implement valid and innovative scientific research. 3. Draw, collect, study, process and manage data from scientific surveys, empirical research, studies, etc. 4. Perform thorough literature review, identify valid sources, evaluate and use them on the basis of the rules governing secondary research and apply the principles of scientific ethics. 5. Use primary research tools (i.e. design questionnaires, structure and pursue interviews, identify observation requirements, etc.). 6. Understand the main methods of collecting, processing and interpreting data. 7. Design and implement credible, objective and scientifically sound qualitative and quantitative surveys. 8. Use modern electronic statistical analysis systems. 9. Interpret and present the findings of their investigations. 10. Share the knowledge that has emerged from scientific research (e.g. attend conferences, publish in scientific journals, write reports, etc.)		
Prerequisites	None	**Required**	None
Course content	1. Concepts, theories and methods of scientific research in Public Administration 2. Basic principles of applied scientific research 3. Academic ethics in research 4. Research design and research strategies 5. Stages of scientific research 6. Methods of data collection and sampling techniques 7. Statistical analysis		

	8. Descriptive statistics (principles and key concepts) 9. Parametric - Non-parametric statistics 10. Modern statistical analysis tools. 11. Writing a research paper 12. Analysis, interpretation and presentation of research findings
Teaching methodology	Recorded lectures, Webex sessions, interactive activities, research, participation to discussion forums, reading material and notes
Bibliography	Elizabethann O'Sullivan, Gary Rassel, Maureen Berner, Jocelyn Taliaferro, 2017. Research Methods for Public Administrators. 6th Edition. Oxon: Routledge Burns, Robert B. 2000. Introduction to Research Methods (4thed.). London: Sage Publications American Psychological Association. 1992. Ethical principles in the conduct of research with human participants. American Psychologist 47: 1597-1611. Haggerty, Kevin D. 2004. Ethics creep: Governing social science research in the name of ethics. Qualitative Sociology 27(4): 391-414. Hedgecoe, Adam M. 2004. Critical Bioethics: Beyond the Social Science Critique of Applied Ethics. Bioethics (18): 120–143. Murphy, Elizabeth, and Robert Dingwall. 2007. Informed consent, anticipatory regulation and ethnographic practice. Social Science & Medicine 65(11): 2223-2234.
Assessment	Assignments/papers, final exam/assessment
Language	English