



Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
PSY-495	Thesis I	6
Prerequisites	Department	Semester
4 th Year Standing and PSY-245, PSY-295, PSY-395, and PSY-451	Social Sciences	Fall-Spring
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Elective	Psychology	English
Level of Course	Lecturer(s)	Year of Study
1 st Cycle	Dr. Xenia Hadjicharalambous	4 th
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Co-requisites
Meetings with Supervisor	N/A	None

Course Objectives:

Thesis I constitutes the first component of the Thesis. The material is separated into 2 modules mainly for the organization of the material.

This course is based on the assumption that the students have successfully completed the prerequisites of Research Methods, Statistics and Experimental Psychology. It is intended to review and build upon the knowledge and skills developed in these courses.

The main objectives of the course are to continue exposing students to the study of scientific methods. This course is designated to offer advanced psychology students the opportunity to investigate by empirical research a topic of particular interest to them. It is intended to integrate knowledge from previous courses concerning major research issues in psychology, research design and methodology, and statistical procedures.

- **Utility in the Curriculum:** This class forms part of the department's core teaching in "epistemology" for the purposes of EuroPsy recognition of the degree. It further serves the objectives of "Methodology Skills", "Data acquisition training" and "Reading/writing paper" as required by EuroPsy.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the completion of this module which constitutes the first component of the Thesis (Thesis I, PSY - 480) students are expected to

1. Review and improve their understanding of scientific method and statistics.
2. Be able to apply the key characteristics of research design
3. Be able to develop a testable research question from an important topic.
4. Develop a deep understanding of what makes research “valid” or “invalid”.
5. Develop an understanding of how to identify and control threats to research validity.
6. Identify what assists in making research “reliable” or “unreliable”?
7. Be able to choose among alternative research designs
8. Be able to identify the key elements in statistical inference that are important.
9. Develop a sensitivity to ethical issues in research and the skills necessary to address these issues
10. Develop a comprehensive proposal for an original empirical research project by anticipating and addressing major issues in validity, reliability and ethics.

Course Content:

1. Overview of the Research Process
2. Idea-generating phase
3. Problem-definition phase
4. Review of the Relevant Literature
5. Procedures-design phase
6. Writing the comprehensive Research Proposal

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lab Tutorials, Practical Exercises.

Assessment Methods:

Practical Portfolio, Research Proposal, Research Project Report.

Required Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Research Methods: A Process of Inquiry	Graziano, A., Raulin, M.	Allyn & Bacon McGraw Hill	2013	978- 02059076 94
Publication of the American Psychological Association (6 th Edition)	American Psychological Association	American Psychological Association	2013	
Practical Research Planning and Design.	Leedy, P & Ormrod, J.E	Pearson	2015.	

Recommended Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
SPSS Survival Manual	Pallant, J.	Open University Press.	2016	033526154X