UNIVERSITY of NICOSIA

Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
PSY-495A	Thesis II	6
Prerequisites	**Department**	**Semester**
4th Year Standing and PSY-285, PSY-351, 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**
1st Cycle	Dr. Xenia Hadjicharalambous	4th
Mode of Delivery	**Work Placement**	**Co-requisites**
Face to face	N/A	None

Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the Thesis are to:

Review and build upon the knowledge and skills developed in the prerequisite research methods and statistics courses of the syllabi. It will 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 recognit ion 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 second component of the Thesis students are expected to be able 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.
11. Develop the skills to analyze the empirical data using the statistical software of SPSS
12. Develop the skills to and to interpret the empirical data in terms of (1)how they help to answer the research questions and (2) how the answer contributes to the knowledge in the field
13. Develop the skills to write up the research project using the APA format.
14. Develop the skills to present the results of their research at a designated public forum.

Course Content:

1. Unit 1 – Final Checks on Statistical Approaches
2. Unit 2 – Final checks on the Design
3. Unit 3 – Data Collection Phase
4. Unit 4 – Data Analysis and Interpretation Phase
5. Unit 5 – Communication Phase

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	978-0205907694
Publication of the American Psychological Association (6th 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