

Information list of a subject

University: Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts (BISLA)	
Faculty:	
Subject code M-125	Subject name: Introduction to Social Science Research Methods
Type, scope, and method of educational activities: Two weekly meetings of 90 minutes each, amounting 42 hours total. Every week, the first meeting takes the form of a lecture and the second, of a seminar. (full-time form)	
Number of credits: 6 ECTS	
Suggested semester: Fall semester	
Level of studies: 1	
Conditional previous subjects: none	
Requirements for the course: Course evaluation (%): A – excellent: 100-93%, B – very good: 92-84%, C – good: 83-74%, D – satisfactory: 73-63%, E – sufficient: 62-51%, Fx – fail: 50-0%. Passing the course assumes that student was not absent at more than 4 class sessions. Late arrival is marked as a “tardie”. Three tardies equal one absence. Missing more than 15 minutes of the class is considered an absence.	
Learning outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student will be able to choose a researchable topic and hypothesis • Student will be able to find and evaluate academic sources and integrate them in writing • Discern facts from judgment and inference • Student will be able to identify appropriate methodology and technique for the research of their hypothesis • Student will be able to construct a simple survey, utilizing different types of questions • Familiarity with ethical concerns and conduct • Familiarity with formatting and referencing functions in MSWord • Ability to organize research planning in a thorough proposal 	
Brief outline of the course: Week 1 Intro to Social Science research Week 2 Evaluating information: discerning inference from judgment Week 3 What can you do with qualitative and quantitative research? Week 4 Finding academic sources: Offline and online quest Week 5 Literature Review Week 6 From theory to findings Week 7 Research Design: establishing a causation Week 8 READING WEEK Week 9 Qualitative Approaches: Interviews, surveys Week 10 Quantitative Approaches Week 11 Content analysis Week 12 Developing a research proposal Week 13 Developing a research proposal Week 14 Presentations: Creating a poster Week 15: Presentations	
Reaccommeded readings: READER which includes excerpts from:	

Baglione, L. (2020). Writing a research paper in political science. A practical guide to inquiry, structure, and methods. 4th, London, UK : CQ Press, an imprint of SAGE.
 Cooper, S. and Patton, R. (2020). Writing Logically, Thinking Critically. 8th Ed. New York: Pearson/Longman.
 Johnson, J. B., Reynolds, H. T., & Mycoff, J. T. (2020) Political Science Research Methods, 9th ed. SAGE Publishing.

Recommended readings

Kirby, S. L., Greaves, L. & Reid, C. 2010. Experience Research Social Change. Methods Beyond the Mainstream. Toronto: Toronto Press Inc.
 Leonhard, B. H. 2002. Discoveries in Academic Writing. Boston, MA: Heinle, Cengage Learning.
 Plichtová, J. 2002. Metódy sociálnej psychológie zblízkaL Kvalitatívne a kvantitatívne skúmanie sociálnych reprezentácií. Bratislava: Médiá.
 Scott, G. M. and Garrison, S.M. 2006. The Political Science Student Writer’s Manual, 5th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall.
 Schutt, R. K. (2019). Investigating the Social World: The Process and Practice of Research (9th edition). Los Angeles: Sage.
 Silverman, D. 2017. Doing Qualitative Research. Fifth Edition. Los Angeles, London, and Delhi : SAGE.
 Single, P.B. (2011) Demystifying Dissertation Writing: Streamlined Process from Choice of Topic to Final Text. Sterling, Virginia: Stylus.

Language of the course: English

Notes:

Evaluation

- Short written assignments in class or at home (250-300 words) (20%)
- Article evaluation and annotated bibliography 10%
- Literature review 10%
- Hypothesis 10%
- Full Research Proposal (20%)
- Presentation of the research project (15%).
- Active and informed participation in class--Preparation for seminars, reading background materials, taking part in class activities and peer review (15%)

Total number of evaluated students:

A	B	C	D	E	FX
(percentage of students who got A)	(percentage of students who got B)	(percentage of students who got C)	(percentage of students who got D)	(percentage of students who got E)	(percentage of students who got FX)

Instructor: Dagmar Kusá

Date of the last change: August 25, 2023

Approved: Mgr. Dagmar Kusá, PhD.