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:
- 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

Reaccommended 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
-	-	-	-	-	-

Instructor: Dagmar Kusá

Date of the last change: August 25, 2023

Approved: Prof. PhDr. František Novosád, CSc.