

Information list of a subject

<b>University:</b> Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts (BISLA)	
<b>Faculty:</b>	
<b>Subject code M-125</b>	<b>Subject name: Introduction to Social Science Research Methods</b>
<b>Type, scope, and method of educational activities:</b> 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)	
<b>Number of credits:</b> 6 ECTS	
<b>Suggested semester:</b> . Spring semester	
<b>Level of studies:</b> 1	
<b>Conditional previous subjects:</b> none	
<b>Requirements for the course:</b> 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.	
<b>Learning outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student will be able to choose a researchable topic and hypothesis</li> <li>• Student will be able to find and evaluate academic sources and integrate them in writing</li> <li>• Discern facts from judgment and inference</li> <li>• Student will be able to identify appropriate methodology and technique for the research of their hypothesis</li> <li>• Student will be able to construct a simple survey, utilizing different types of questions</li> <li>• Familiarity with ethical concerns and conduct</li> <li>• Familiarity with formatting and referencing functions in MSWord</li> <li>• Ability to organize research planning in a thorough proposal</li> </ul>	
<b>Brief outline of the course:</b> 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	
<b>Recommended readings:</b> <b>READER which includes excerpts from:</b>	

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: Média.

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:** Lukáš Siegel

**Date of the last change:** August 15, 2024

**Approved:** prof. Iveta Radičová