

29010 - Social Research:Techniques and Methods

Información del Plan Docente

Academic Year	2018/19
Subject	29010 - Social Research:Techniques and Methods
Faculty / School	228 - Facultad de Empresa y Gestión Pública
Degree	429 - Degree in Public Management and Administration
ECTS	6.0
Year	2
Semester	First semester
Subject Type	Compulsory
Module	---

1.General information

1.1.Aims of the course

1.2.Context and importance of this course in the degree

1.3.Recommendations to take this course

2.Learning goals

2.1.Competences

2.2.Learning goals

2.3.Importance of learning goals

3.Assessment (1st and 2nd call)

3.1.Assessment tasks (description of tasks, marking system and assessment criteria)

4.Methodology, learning tasks, syllabus and resources

4.1.Methodological overview

The methodology followed in this course is oriented towards the achievement of the learning objectives. A wide range of teaching and learning tasks are implemented, such as theory sessions, practice sessions, tutorials, and field work research.

4.2.Learning tasks

This 6 ECTS course is organized as follows:

- **Lectures** (40 hours). Main theoretical concepts will be explained by the teacher. Students will add concepts reading

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the recommended references.

- **Practice sessions** (20 hours). Approach to different research designs using specific methods and techniques. All practices will point to take the student in the situation of knowing how to develop a Research Project.
- **Field work** (35 hours). Research Design, development and presentation. It consists on deep interviews, surveys and transcriptions, analysis and a final report. Finally there will be an oral presentation.
- **Autonomous work and study** (40 hours).
- **Tutorials** (10 hours). Through tutorials with each student, there will be reflection and different exercises in relation to the process of designing social research.
- **Assignment tasks** (5 hours).

4.3.Syllabus

The course will address the following topics:

SECTION I. Foundations of Social Research

- **Topic 1. Social Research Methodology**
 - Scientific Knowledge
 - Scientific method and social sciences methods
 - Prospects approach to social reality
 - Methodological Pluralism

SECTION II. Design of Research and Qualitative Research Techniques

- **Topic 2. The organization of research with the qualitative method**
 - The research project
 - The formulation of the research problem
 - Qualitative research design phases
- **Topic 3. Discussion groups and group interviews**
 - The dynamics of groups and the origin of the discussion groups
 - Steps and phases to follow to form a discussion group
 - Utility of the groups
- **Topic 4. The interview**
 - Definition
 - Types of interviews
 - Selection of informants
 - Development of the interview
 - Transcription of the data
 - Data analysis
- **Topic 5. Life stories**
 - What is the history of life
 - Phases of an investigation through this technique

SECTION III. The design of Quantitative Research

- **Topic 6. The Organization of Quantitative Research**
 - The research project
 - The formulation of the research problem
 - The operationalization of the research problem
 - The design of quantitative research
- **Topic 7. Methodological triangulation**
 - Why trinagulation
 - Combination of social research techniques
 - Design through triangulation

SECTION IV. Quantitative Research Techniques

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- **Topic 8. Secondary sources**
 - o Secondary analysis and secondary sources
 - o Types of secondary sources
- **Topic 9. The survey**
 - o Concepts and activities in a sociological Research through a survey including the phases and all their features.

SECTION V. Research Results and Discussion

- **Topic 10. Final Report**
- **Practice sessions**
 - o Practice sessions 1, 2, 3 and 4. Readings and case studies: approach to different methodological approaches and perspectives of social reality analysis. Designs of research projects with qualitative methods.
 - o Practice sessions 5, 6, 7 and 8. Design of research projects with quantitative methods. Management of secondary sources using official and public databases with free access through the computer.
 - o Practice session 9. Design a social research project that includes the structure and the basic sections thereof.
- **Individual Work Programme**
 - o During Academic Year Students will carry out field work based on interviews, surveys, transcription, data analysis and final report.

4.4. Course planning and calendar

Further information concerning the timetable, classroom, office hours, assessment dates and other details regarding this course will be provided on the first day of class or please refer to the Faculty of Business and Public Management website and Moodle.

4.5. Bibliography and recommended resources