

28508 - Social research methods and techniques

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2023/24

Subject: 28508 - Social research methods and techniques

Faculty / School: 108 - Facultad de Ciencias Sociales y del Trabajo

Degree: 428 - Degree in Labour Relations and Human Resources

ECTS: 6.0

Year: 1

Semester: Second semester

Subject type: Compulsory

Module:

1. General information

The course Methods and Techniques of Social Research (6 credits) has two blocks.

Its main contribution is to provide knowledge on techniques that enable the study of social and labour reality through research, placing the student in the most practical dimension.

The second block of the subject belongs to the Area of Statistics and Operational Research, dealing with an introduction to the statistical techniques that correspond to the collection and descriptive analysis of information about the object of study based on a socio-occupational reality.

This approach and goals are aligned with the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations Agenda 2030 (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/es/>), in such a way that the acquisition of the subject's learning results provides training and competence to contribute to some extent to their achievement: Goals 1, 3, 5, 8 and 10.

2. Learning results

- Be able to locate and discriminate the statistical sources that collect socio-labor data.
- Be able to analyze data with the support of the main statistical software packages.
- Be able to draw conclusions.
- Know the necessary steps to carry out socio-labor research work.
- Apply quantitative and qualitative social research techniques to the work environment.
- Locate, discriminate and analyze relevant documentation and information for research in the social and labor field.

3. Syllabus

BLOCK 1: SOCIAL RESEARCH TECHNIQUES (SOCIOLOGY AREA)

Unit 1. Research in the Sociology of Labor Relations. Types of research. The research process.

Unit 2. Quantitative data collection techniques. The survey and the questionnaire.

Unit 3. Qualitative data collection techniques. Group techniques. The focus group. The interview.

BLOCK 2: (STATISTICAL METHODS DEPARTMENT)

Unit 1: Introduction to Statistics: Statistical methods in social sciences, population and sample, types of variables and measurement scales.

DESCRIPTION OF UNIVARIATE DATA

Unit 2: Tabular representation of frequencies.

Unit 3: Graphical representations of frequencies.

Unit 4: Numerical description I. Measures of central tendency and position.

Unit 5: Numerical description II. Position and shape measurements.

4. Academic activities

SOCIOLOGY AREA

Master class: 15 hours. expository classes with the group as a whole, where the theoretical foundations of the subject will be exposed and worked on basically through readings that will be the content to be learned and understood.

Practice sessions: 15 hours. Exchanges of ideas, debates, problems, cases on real research materials together with exercises on the research process and its elements.

Student's autonomous work: 42 hours.

Assessment: 3 hours.

STATISTICAL METHODS DEPARTMENT

Master class: 15 hours. Teachers will present the main contents of the course and will try to motivate participation and discussion in the classroom.

Practice sessions: 15 hours. In these sessions, students will learn how to handle and solve practical problems. The session is intended to be participatory in nature and is available at.

Student's autonomous work: 42 hours.

Assessment: 3 hours.

5. Assessment system

A-The assessment of the **sociology block** is carried out in the final exam:

- 50% through a test corresponding to **Type 1**. It will be a multiple-choice test (consisting of 15 items), or short questions, or essay questions.
- 50% by means of a written test with short questions, corresponding to **Type 2**, about a real research and/or exercises on the elements of research and/or exercises on the elements of the investigation.

The **final grade for the block** will consist of the average of the grades obtained in each of the different teaching activities, with a minimum grade of 4 in each part being necessary and essential.

B-The assessment of the **statistics block** is composed of a final exam and voluntary evaluative activities during the class period.

Compulsory final exam: on the date of the final exam calendar. It will be graded from 0 to 10 points.

Assessment activities: they will be graded from 0 to 2 points. To be done individually or in groups of up to 5 students according to the type of activity.

The **final grade for the statistics block** will be established following these criteria:

- If the final exam grade is lower than 4 points, the final overall grade will be only the grade corresponding to the final exam.
- In the event that the final examination mark is equal to or higher than 4 points, the final overall mark will be calculated as the sum of the final examination mark and the mark obtained in the set of assessment activities, with this mark being a maximum of 10 points.

FINAL GRADE OF THE SUBJECT: It will be the average of the final grades of each block, being necessary a minimum grade of 4 in each block to be able to make the average.