

61129 - Master's Dissertation

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2023/24

Subject: 61129 - Master's Dissertation

Faculty / School: 127 - Facultad de Ciencias de la Salud

Degree: 374 - Master's in Social Gerontology

ECTS: 12.0

Year: 1

Semester: Annual

Subject type: Compulsory

Module:

1. General information

The objective of the master's final project (MFP) is to carry out a research project (initiation to research) in the field of elderly people. This activity will enable students to initiate future research and learn how to manage the scientific method and databases in social and health sciences, as well as to apply for any permits necessary for its development. Students adhere to the research lines of their tutors, previously published in this subject, through Unizar's Moodle platform.

The objectives of the MFP are:

- To write a research paper in the field of Gerontology and Geriatrics, following the scientific method.
- To use the tools acquired in the master's program to carry out this research work (literature review and research methodology).
- To review, manage and present the bibliography consulted and its sources (cite in Vancouver in biomedical sciences and APA in social sciences).
- To defend orally or by videoconference, in a public act and before a board of examiners, individually, the research work, in addition to submitting the complete work in writing and incorporating it into the Unizar repository (Deposita).

These approaches and objectives are aligned with the following Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) of the United Nations Agenda 2030 (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/es/>), so that the acquisition of the learning results of the subject provides training and competence to contribute to some extent to its achievement: Goal 3: Health and well-being.

2. Learning results

In the development of the MFP the student must acquire and demonstrate the learning results that include their ability to:

1. Select a relevant and current research topic.
2. Correctly delimit the conceptual framework.
3. Use a wide variety of documents from both national and international sources.
4. Formulate research questions, specifying objectives and the methodology used.
5. Adequately interpret the results obtained.
6. Recognize the limitations encountered throughout the research.
7. Propose new future lines of research.
8. Acquire knowledge through research
9. Write a research paper in the field of gerontology and defend it orally before a board of examiners.

3. Syllabus

PROGRAM

- Development and structure of the MFP Explanation of the MFP manual.
- Bibliographic/systematic reviews. Bibliographic manager.
- BiblioPRO and use of questionnaires.
- CEICA Protocols.
- Research grants.
- Statistical bases and SPSS program.

Completion of a research paper which must include the following sections:

- a) Title
- b) Structured abstract (must include at least three key words)
- c) Introduction
 - Background and current status of the topic
 - Research justification
- d) Hypothesis or research question
- e) Objectives of the study
- f) Material and method
 - Study design.
 - Population. Sample
 - Variables and measurement methods.
 - Data analysis
- g) Results and discussion.
- h) Conclusions.
- i) Bibliography.

More detailed information can be found in the master's Final Project manual available on:

<https://fcs.unizar.es/mu-gerontologia-social#overlay-context=master-universitario-en-gerontologia-social>

In the case of a systematic review on a topic related to "the field of the elderly", it should be guided by the PRISMA criteria (see MFP manual).

4. Academic activities

Theoretical-practical seminars: The contents will deal with the methodological foundations for the writing of the MFP (university library resources, bibliographic managers, databases, scientific method, statistics, systematic reviews and management of permissions and licenses for the use of questionnaires and CEICA authorization).

The different seminars will provide the guidelines and instructions to be followed in the production of the MFP and will work on specific aspects of the approach and execution of each type of work.

Program:

- Basic guidelines and instructions for the completion of the MFP.
- Methodological aspects in the realization of the MFP. Systematic reviews
- Design and development of the MFP. Bibliopro and CEICA permissions
- Bibliographic manager and databases in health sciences
- APA and Vancouver bibliography

Autonomous work of the student: each student will be responsible for all those activities of a non-attendance nature aimed at the preparation and defence of **their** work. It includes the design and implementation of a research project. The student performs information search, data analysis, complementary readings and paper writing.

Tutoring: direct assistance to the student. Identification of learning problems. The director will monitor the process of production of the work throughout the academic year, for its follow-up, advice and approval, prior to the defence. A minimum of 4 tutoring sessions will be conducted and recorded in the Tutoring Record Document.

Assessment: presentation of the research work before a board of three PhD teachers of the University of Zaragoza, from the teaching staff of the master's program.

5. Assessment system

MFP defence before a board of examiners

The dates for document submission and calls will be published in Moodle. The student is entitled to two calls per academic year.

The place and time of the defence of the MFP will be announced on the master's board and on the Moodle platform sufficiently in advance. Previously, the student will have submitted through Moodle the required documentation to request the defence as well as the MFP in pdf format.

More detailed information can be found in the MFP manual available on the website of the Faculty of Health Sciences:

<https://fcs.unizar.es/mu-gerontologia-social#overlay-context=master-universitario-en-gerontologia-social>

The assessment is carried out by a board of examiners made up of three teachers who are doctors of the master's degree. This accounts for 100% of the final grade obtained by the student. A rubric document is used with the following weighting: 70% for the report and 30% for the oral defence (available in the MFP Manual). The minutes shall be signed by the three members of the board.