Research Design & Methods in Social Sciences

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GENERAL

SCHOOL	School of Environment		
ACADEMIC UNIT	Department of Environment		
LEVEL OF STUDIES	Postgraduate		
COURSE CODE	ENV581	SEMESTER	Spring
COURSE TITLE	Research Design & Methods in Social Sciences		

INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES	TEACHING HOURS	CREDITS
Lectures		
Workshops		
Course Total		3
Add rows if necessary. The organisation of teaching and the teaching methods used are described in detail at (d).		

COURSE TYPE	skills development
PREREQUISITE COURSES:	
COURSE WEBSITE (URL)	https://aegeanmoodle.aegean.gr

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning outcomes
- understand the basic framework for deductive scientific inquiry - understand the development of theory-based testable research hypotheses - familiarize with creating and administering questionnaires - practice in coding & analyzing quantitative data for hypotheses testing through SPSS
General Competences
- analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology - Team work - Working in an international environment - Working in an interdisciplinary environment - Production of new research ideas

SYLLABUS

The course aims to offer students practical experience in designing and conducting real-life social sciences research with an emphasis on environmental topics. The course covers quantitative research designs. Topics covered include: (i) deductive theoretical model construction (ii) questionnaire design and administration (iii) quantitative data analysis (using SPSS)

The topics of the Lectures and in-class activities include:
-Introduction to Social Sciences' Research; Quantitative Research Methods
--Discussion of individual draft questionnaires- Designing final questionnaire to be used for data collection

- Fielding questionnaire & collecting data
- Using SPSS for data insertion
-Analyzing data using SPSS (a) descriptive statistics (b) correlation (c) regression (d) data reduction techniques

TEACHING and LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION

DELIVERY	*Face-to Face*
USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY	Use of ICT in teaching, laboratory education, communication with students
TEACHING METHODS	

Activity	*Semester workload*
Lectures, seminars	12 hours
Workshops, Laboratory practice	10 hours
Self-study and independent work (reading, assignments, projects)	78 hours
Course total	*100 hours*

STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION	Students will be graded based on: • Individual Assignment (IA) 1 20% • IA2 10% • IA3 20% • Final written report 50%

ATTACHED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- de Vaus D.A. (1996) Surveys in Social Research, UCL Press
- de Vaus D.A. (2002) Analyzing Social Sciences Data, Sage
- Field A. (2000) Discovering Statistics using SPSS for Windows
- Lewis-Beck et al (eds.) (2003) The Sage encyclopedia of social science research methods, Sage