Research in Progress

Academic Year: (2019 / 2020) **Review date: 06-11-2019**

Department assigned to the subject:

Coordinating teacher: FISHMAN , ROBERT MICHAEL

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits : 4.0

Year : 2 Semester : 1

OBJECTIVES

Core Competences

Possess and understand knowledge that provides a basis or opportunity to be original in the development and/or application of ideas, often in a research context.
Students know how to apply their acquired knowledge and problem-solving skills in new or unfamiliar settings within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to their field of study.
Students are able to integrate knowledge and face the complexity of making judgments based on incomplete or limited information that includes reflections on the social and ethical responsibilities linked to the application of their knowledge and judgments.
Students know how to communicate their conclusions and knowledge, and the reasons behind them, to both specialised and non-specialised audiences in a clear and unambiguous way.
Students possess the learning skills that will enable them to continue studying in a way that will be largely self-directed or autonomous.

General Competencies

To understand the main analytical tools from political science, sociology and economic history.
To evaluate and compare different contributions to important social science debates from an analytical, methodological and empirical point of view.
To plan and carry out an autonomous research programme in a specific field of the social sciences.
To evaluate the internal logic of a scientific publication by examining the consistency between theory, analytical strategy, indicators, results and conclusions.
To understand and know how to synthesize the main theories into one or more contemporary debates in the social sciences.
To develop a scientific argument with clarity and precision.
To know how to apply advanced quantitative techniques in specific research projects.
To develop a research design that allows general hypotheses to be tested.

Specific Competences

To seek, analyse and understand the properties of quantitative data associated with the study of social phenomena.
To operate with quantitative research data: master quantitative data analysis tools to apply them in the research process.
To apply formal models in the study of strategic decisions, negotiation and delegation processes and collective action phenomena.

Learning outcomes

Understand the axial principles of the logic of scientific research
Master the difference between forgery, confirmation and contrast
Know the different research designs: variable-based, case-based, comparative
Understand the techniques to combine different research designs
Familiarity with different types of scientific evidence
Analyze scientific writing techniques
Design a specific research project
Implement a research project
To know how to evaluate collectively analytical strategies and scientific results
To know the main qualitative research techniques

Understand the logic of experiments
Know the principles of content analysis
Familiarity with big data methods

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

Analytical strategies
Applied social science research
Planning and presentation of a research project
Designing strategies ro implement a research project
Collective discussion of analytical strategies and results

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Theoretical class
Practical classes
Tutorials
Individual student work

TEACHING METHODS

Presentations in the professor¿s lecture room with computer and audiovisual support, in which the main concepts of the subject are developed and the bibliography is provided to complement the students' learning.
Critical reading of texts recommended by the subject teacher:
Reports, manuals and/or academic articles, either for later discussion in class, or to expand and consolidate the knowledge of the subject.
Resolution of practical cases, problems, etc. related to the development of a research project.
Presentations and discussion in class, under the moderation of the professor, of the initial design of the students' research topics.
Developing works and reports individually or in group.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Prerequisite: Class attendance and participation.
Final paper: 100%.

% end-of-term-examination:	100
% of continuous assessment (assigments, laboratory, practicals…):	0

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Baglione, Lisa A. Writing a Research Paper in POolitical Science, Sage, 2016
- Brady, Henry and David Collier Rethinking Social Inquiry, Rowman and Littlefield, 2010
- Bryman, A. Social Research Methods, Oxford, 2012
- McCloskey, Deidre Economical Writing, Waveland Press, 2000
- Ragin, Charles Reedesigning Social Inquiry: Fuzzy Sets and Beyond, Chicago, 2008