Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Research Methodology in Digital Information

OBJECTIVES

It is intended that students access to a basic theoretical knowledge to understand what scientific activity consists of, as well as practical knowledge to be able to apply them to different research processes.

To achieve the proposed objective, in addition to offering a scientific perspective in the field of digital information, which allows expanding the scientific basis of this discipline, they are provided with the fundamental methodological tools that will help them plan, manage and evaluate the processes that are carry out in any organization in a scientific and professional manner.

In order to achieve these objectives, the following competences will be acquired by students during the development of the subject:

CB1: To adquire and understand knowledge in an area of study that starts from the base of general secondary education, and sometimes is at a level that, although supported by advanced textbooks, includes other aspects that involve knowledge of the vanguard of its field of study.

CB3: To have the ability to obtain and interpret relevant data (usually within their area of study) to make judgments that include a reflection on relevant social, scientific or ethical issues.

CB5: To develop those learning skills necessary to undertake further studies with a high degree of autonomy.

CG2: To know the theories, principles and instruments, traditional and contemporary, of communication, organization and information management.

CG4: To know the models and research methods in the field of digital information.

CG5: To understand the basic methodology of research of sources, analysis and interpretation to achieve the integration of knowledge in an academic work.

CT3: Be able to organize and plan your work, taking the right decisions based on the available information, obtaining and interpreting relevant data to make judgments and critical thinking within your area of study.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

0.   Course presentation
1.   Science and scientific knowledge
2.   Social Sciences research
3.   The different perspectives of information research
4.   Stages of the research process: The research problem
5.   Stages of the research process: Hypotheses and variables
6.   Stages of the research process: The design
7.   Stages of the research process: Sample and data collection and analysis
8.   Presentation of research results
9.   The role of the digital medium in research

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

Theoretical, theoretical-practical and practical classes:
Acquisition of theoretical and practical knowledge (4 ECTS) through the theoretical and practical classes, teaching materials prepared by the teacher, online tutorials, specialized readings and comments on the readings, as well as the personal study of the students. It is related to the CB1, CB5, CG2, CG4 and CG5 competitions.

Individual or group work of the student
Acquisition of skills and abilities (2 ECTS) through practices in which the acquired knowledge will be applied for the design, development, obtaining of results, discussion and extraction of conclusions in a research work. It is related to the CB3, CB5, CG5 and CT3 competences.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

SE1: Final exam
SE2: Continuous evaluation

The evaluation system takes into account the personalized follow-up that has been made of the student, in the practical classes, seminars and tutorials; the evaluation of the internship work, and the performance of a written academic exam or test.

The final exam contributes 60% of the final grade.
The practical activity, practical exercises and the comments of the readings in class, contribute 40% to the final grade.

The qualification of the continuous evaluation will only be considered when the final exam is passed.

% end-of-term-examination:	60
% of continuous assessment (assigments, laboratory, practicals…):	40

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

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