uc3m Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Sociological Research Seminar

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024) Review date: 26-04-2023

Department assigned to the subject: Social Sciences Department

Coordinating teacher: VEIRA RAMOS, ALBERTO

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits: 6.0

Year: 4 Semester: 1

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

The sociological research seminar, subject of the last course of the degree, is based on the knowledge acquired during the previous courses, which implies a broad command of both sociological theory and social research techniques.

OBJECTIVES

The subject is conceived as the step prior to the completion of the Final Degree Project, so it shares its objectives with this subject and prepares for research activity from a broad perspective:

- -Sensitivity to the challenges and social problems of the present moment.
- -Put into practice the theoretical, methodological and technical knowledge, as well as the instrumental skills acquired in undergraduate studies
- -Ability to correctly state objectives and hypotheses and structure a research project coherently.
- -Ability to use sources and resources recognized by the scientific community and to cite rigorously
- -Practical experience in the use of research methods
- -Convert data into findings; Ability to clearly convey, where appropriate, relevant findings
- -Ability to orally communicate the reasons for choosing a research object, the structure of the study, its main sources and the way to articulate the conclusions

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

The objective of this course is to acquire the professional tools necessary to carry out sociological research. Combining theory and practice, the entire research process will be covered, carefully attending to each of its phases. The different elements that make up social research will be analyzed to address them both conceptually, in order to understand their operating logic, and in a practical way, in order to apply them to social research. Based on this approach, the contents will be the following:

- Topic 1: The definition of social problems
- Topic 2: Formulation of an investigation request
- Topic 3: Design of the research proposal
- Topic 4: Analysis of information sources
- Topic 5: Field work
- Topic 6: Data Analysis and converting them into results
- Topic 7: Presentation of the research

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

The subject has a completely practical orientation, which is why it will be based on carrying out exercises of a collective nature, in correspondence with each of the phases of the research cycle.

Students will be divided into teams to carry out a group research project that will pay special attention to methodological aspects. Both the research project and its results must be exposed by all the members of the groups and discussed in class during the semester.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Regular call:

- 1) Realization of practical exercises: 30%
- ¿Research request development (10%)
- ¿ Research proposal development (20%)
- 2) Carrying out, exposing and discussing research: 50%
- ¿Investigation report (Guides, Pilot, transcript and report, are mandatory and score together)
- 3) Contribution to team work (20%)

Students who require an exam to pass the subject must, during the time allocated to the exercise, carry out a research project in response to a briefing delivered at the beginning. All kinds of materials, books,

online searches, etc. can be used for this.

Extraordinary call:

Practical exercise consisiting on preparing a research proposal that responds to a request (briefing) that is delivered at the time of the exam.

% end-of-term-examination: 0

% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...): 100

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Alguacil, Julio Cómo se hace un trabajo de investigación en sociología, Catarata, 2011
- Arroyo, Millán; Sádaba, Igor (coord) Metodología de la investigación social, Síntesis, 2012
- Becker, H. Trucos del oficio, Siglo XXI, 2009
- Callejo, J.; Viedma, A. Proyectos y estrategias de investigación social: la perspectiva de la intervención, McGraw Hill, 2010
- Cea D'Ancona, María Ángeles Metodología cuantitativa. Estrategia y técnicas de investigación social , Síntesis Sociología, 1996
- Chalmers, A. Qué es esa cosa llamada ciencia, Siglo XXI, 2006
- Eco, U. Cómo se hace una tesis, Gedisa, 2001
- Ferrer, V.; Carmona, M. Soria, V. (eds) El trabajo de fin de grado, McGraw Hill, 2013
- Guinea-Martín, D. (coord) Trucos del oficio de investigador, Gedisa, 2012
- Palacios Gómez, José Luis Técnicas cuantitativas de investigación social: cuestiones fundamentales y casos prácticos, Universitas, 2017
- Ruiz, José Ignacio Metodología de la investigación cualitativa, Universidad de Deusto, 2017
- Vallés, Miguel Técnicas cualitativas de investigación social, Síntesis, 1997