

Tárgytematika / Course Description

Research Methods of Social Sciences

AKNB_NKTA033

Tárgyfelelős neve /

Teacher's name: dr. Tompos Anikó

Félév / Semester: 2018/19/2

Beszámolási forma /

Assesment: Beszámoló (ötfokozatú)

Tárgy heti óraszám /

Teaching hours(week): 1/3/0

Tárgy féléves óraszám /

Teaching hours(sem.): 0/0/0

OKTATÁS CÉLJA / AIM OF THE COURSE

Overall aim: to develop course participants' research skills.

Objectives:

- to make students reflect upon several aspects of academic research;
- to acquaint them with different types and methods of academic research as well as their rationale;
- to practice the comparing and contrasting of previous research findings when writing a literature review;
- to provide students with the opportunity to plan and partly conduct their own research; write up a research design and present it.

Expected outcomes:

Having completed the course participants are expected to be able to

- plan and conduct academic research;
- form an opinion of the quality of a piece of academic research.

TANTÁRGY TARTALMA / DESCRIPTION

Week 1: Course description, requirements, assessment method. Participants' prior experiences in conducting primary and secondary research.

Week 2: Science and scientific research. The 'what' and 'why' of research. Characteristics of and quality in research.

Week 3: Theories in scientific research. Knowledge, paradigms and perspectives.

Week 4: The nature of data. Research questions, hypotheses and operational definitions. Research as an ethical and cultural issue.

Week 5: Preparing for research: Planning research, reviewing literature, choosing methods, sampling, research proposals.

Week 6: Types of data collection 1: questionnaires, semi-structured interviews, focus groups. Reliability and validity.

Week 7: Types of data collection 2: observation, narrative data, documents, secondary sources of data.

Week 8: Data analysis 1: Statistical analysis.

Week 9: Data analysis 2: Thematic, discourse and content analysis. Analysing narratives.

Week 10: Data presentation. The importance of the audience.

Week 11: Drawing conclusions.

Week 12: Presentations.

Week 13: Presentations. End-of-term test (theory).

Week 14: Course evaluation.

SZÁMONKÉRÉSI ÉS ÉRTÉKELÉSI RENDSZERE / ASSESSMENT'S METHOD

Prerequisite for end-of-term signature:

- attendance of lessons (not more than 3 missed double-classes)
- a presentation of the design of a piece of own research (including a short review of literature)

Assessment criteria:

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|--------------------------------|-----------|
| • contribution (discussions) | 30 points |
| • off-class assignments) | 20 points |
| • presentation of own research | 20 points |
| • literature review | 15 points |
| • end-of-term test | 15 points |

90 – 100%: excellent (5)

77 – 89%: good (4)

64 – 76 points: fair (3)

51 – 63%: satisfactory (2)

0 – 50%: fail (1)

KÖTELEZŐ IRODALOM / OBLIGATORY MATERIAL

Compulsory reading:

Bhattacharjee, Anol 2012. *Social Science Research: Principles, Methods and Practices*. 2nd edition. *Textbooks Collection*. Book 3. http://scholarcommons.usf.edu/oa_textbooks/3 (parts)

Recommended readings:

Matthews, Bob & Ross, Liz 2010. *Research Methods. A practical guide for the social sciences*. Harlow: Pearson.

Babbie, Earl R. 2010. *The Practice of Social Research* (12th ed.). Belmont: Wadsworth.

Berg, Bruce L. 2009. *Qualitative Research Methods for the Social Sciences* (7th ed.). Boston: Pearson.

Kvale, Steinar 1996. *InterViews: An Introduction to Qualitative Research Interviewing*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.