

Introducción a la Investigación

Código: 42273
Créditos ECTS: 10

Titulación	Tipo	Curso	Semestre
4313335 Ciencia Política / Political Science	OB	0	1

Contacto

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Uso de idiomas

Lengua vehicular mayoritaria: inglés (eng)

Prerequisitos

Students enrolled in this course are expected to have a bachelors degree level in political science or in any other social science discipline.

Remedial readings:

Brians, Wilnat, Manheim & Rich, Empirical Political Analysis, various editions.

Pollock, P. 2009 *The essentials of political analysis*, Washington: CQ Press, 3rd ed.

Objetivos y contextualización

The purpose of this module is to provide students with the methodological tools that are required for designing research projects in political science. The module is intended to help students successfully defend their Master Thesis and develop research proposals for PhD applications.

The module overviews the different phases of research, analyzes their potential problems and discusses solutions discussed in the literature. Within the module department professors and researchers present their current and past research projects, with an emphasis in linking relevant research questions to adequate research strategies.

Competencias

- Demostrar comprensión lectora de textos especializados en inglés.
- Desarrollar habilidades de liderazgo.
- Diseñar un proyecto de investigación que satisfaga los criterios de rigor y excelencia académica.

- Evaluar con los criterios adecuados informes, documentos e investigaciones elaborados por terceros de manera autónoma.
- Generar ideas innovadoras.
- Identificar las principales dificultades metodológicas que surgen en el análisis de la política y saber abordarlas con las herramientas existentes.
- Que los estudiantes sean capaces de integrar conocimientos y enfrentarse a la complejidad de formular juicios a partir de una información que, siendo incompleta o limitada, incluya reflexiones sobre las responsabilidades sociales y éticas vinculadas a la aplicación de sus conocimientos y juicios.
- Trabajar en equipos de carácter internacional e interdisciplinar, cuyos miembros tienen orígenes y trayectorias diferentes.

Resultados de aprendizaje

1. Conocer la lógica del control de explicaciones alternativas.
2. Conocer las características del conocimiento científico.
3. Conocer las limitaciones y potencialidades de cada estrategia de investigación.
4. Conocer los problemas que pueden surgir a la hora de definir conceptos y cómo abordarlos.
5. Conocer los problemas que pueden surgir a la hora de definir un problema de investigación y cómo abordarlos.
6. Contrastar hipótesis a través de los diferentes métodos disponibles.
7. Definir conceptos.
8. Definir un problema de investigación.
9. Definir una estrategia de investigación adecuada al problema.
10. Demostrar comprensión lectora de textos especializados en inglés.
11. Desarrollar habilidades de liderazgo.
12. Elaborar un marco teórico.
13. Evaluar con los criterios adecuados informes, documentos e investigaciones elaborados por terceros de manera autónoma.
14. Generar ideas innovadoras.
15. Que los estudiantes sean capaces de integrar conocimientos y enfrentarse a la complejidad de formular juicios a partir de una información que, siendo incompleta o limitada, incluya reflexiones sobre las responsabilidades sociales y éticas vinculadas a la aplicación de sus conocimientos y juicios.
16. Trabajar en equipos de carácter internacional e interdisciplinar, cuyos miembros tienen orígenes y trayectorias diferentes.

Contenido

What is scientific knowledge? What is an academic paper?

Quoting, plagiarism and tools to organize your references

How to define a research problem, a theoretical framework and your hypotheses

Conceptualization and operationalization

Conceptualization and measurement through surveys

Research design for hypothesis testing

Comparative research designs

Case studies

Experimental research designs

Metodología

The module is structured in three different kinds of seminars:

- 1) seminars dealing with methodological questions related to the research process
- 2) research in practice seminars, where researchers and professors of the department will present their past or current research projects
- 3) students presentations of their own research process presented in a written assignment

All sessions require previous reading of the indicated texts and an active participation of students. These are necessary conditions to create an informed dialogue and a stimulating environment to discuss the different methodological issues involved in any research process.

Actividades

Título	Horas	ECTS	Resultados de aprendizaje
Tipo: Dirigidas			
Lectures and presentations	60	2,4	13, 6, 4, 5, 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16
Tipo: Supervisadas			
Tutorials	50	2	6, 4, 5, 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 12
Tipo: Autónomas			
Reading and assignment preparation	137,5	5,5	13, 6, 4, 5, 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16

Evaluación

To be graded students must have attended at least 80% of all sessions with punctuality. Grading will be based in the following elements:

- Participation in class discussions 20%
- Exam 35%
- Three written assignments 45%

Actividades de evaluación

Título	Peso	Horas	ECTS	Resultados de aprendizaje
Exam	35%	2,5	0,1	13, 6, 4, 5, 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16
Participation	20%	0	0	13, 4, 5, 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 15, 16
Written assignments	45%	0	0	4, 5, 1, 3, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16

Bibliografía

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