

Degree programme	Type	Course
Geography, Environmental Management and Regional Planning	OB	2

Contact lecturer

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Teaching staff

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Group languages

You can consult this information at the [end](#) of the document.

Prerequisites

In order to take this subject, you must have a level of Catalan and/or Spanish equivalent to or higher than B2.

There are no other prerequisites.

Objectives

The objectives of the course are two:

- a) The knowledge of the process of organization and development of field work in social sciences and, specifically, its application to the research in territorial and urban planning processes.
- b) The knowledge and adequate use of the main qualitative methods of social research: conversation / narration techniques, observation techniques, mixed conversation and observation techniques, visual techniques, cartographic representation techniques and documentary techniques.

Learning outcomes

- CM25 (Carry out a basic research project introducing qualitative methodologies: defining the problem, selecting the method, collecting information, and analysing the material using coding systems and internal analysis.) Carry out a basic research project introducing qualitative methodologies: defining the

problem, selecting the method, collecting information, and analysing the material using coding systems and internal analysis.

- KM40 (Introduce the main sources of scientific information and documentation related to territorial and environmental processes in a study.) Introduce the main sources of scientific information and documentation related to territorial and environmental processes in a study.
- SM33 (Apply the methods and techniques of qualitative analysis and fieldwork in the interpretation of spatial and environmental processes.) Apply the methods and techniques of qualitative analysis and fieldwork in the interpretation of spatial and environmental processes.

Contents

1. The research process

- a) Fases of the research.
- b) Objectives/Hypothesis/Research questions
- c) Methodological design of the research
- d) Field work
- e) Analysis of the information
- f) Dissemination of results

2. Basic epistemological elements of the social sciences

- a) Positivism/postpositivism
- b) Hermeneutics
- c) Positionality/reflexivity
- d) Reliability and validity of the investigation

3. Ethical aspects in social science research.

4. Quantitative-qualitative methodology. Methodological triangulation and combination of methods.

5. Qualitative methodology.

- a) Conversation techniques
 - Individual interview
 - Life stories
 - Group interview/Focus group
 - Interview with key informants
- b) Observation techniques

- Observation
- Participant observation
- c) Conversation and observation techniques (Walking interviews)
- d) Visual techniques
 - Photovoice
 - Photo-stimulation, photodocumentation and reflexive photography
- e) Cartographic representation techniques
 - Mental maps
 - Participatory cartography and collective mapping
 - *Relief maps*

6. Practical aspects of the development of field work

7. CAQDAS (Computer Assisted Qualitative Data Analysis Software)

8. Analysis of information, preparation of documents and dissemination of results.

Learning activities and methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Exercises and research project	20	0.8	
Tutorials	5	0.2	
Lessons (theory, concepts and methods)	15	0.6	
Workshops	16	0.64	
Field work	16	0.64	
Personal study, elaboration of reviews and design of a qualitative fieldwork project	75	3	

Lessons on concepts, theories and methods will be complemented with the design of a qualitative fieldwork applied to a case of territorial/urban planning, which will be coordinated with the *Territorial and Environmental Laboratory*. This project will allow the students to work professionally on the problems the investigation and the fieldwork. The study and practise of the qualitative methods requires fieldwork on the geographical areas previously selected for the development of the *Territorial and Environmental Laboratory*.

Reading of basic texts about epistemological reflection, research design and methods will be compulsory.

Process of learning and acquisition of competences will be supervised by the lecturer through individual and/or group tutorials. Lecturers of the courses will be available to the students to solve the doubts and follow the evolution of the mentioned process of learning and acquisition of competences of the students.

All the information used by the lecturer in the theoretical classes and the seminars as well as the different materials elaborated by the students will be available in the Virtual Campus.

The activities that could not be done onsite will be adapted to an online format made available through the UAB's virtual tools. Exercises, projects and lectures will be carried out using virtual tools such as tutorials, videos, Teams sessions, etc. Lecturers will ensure that students are able to access these virtual tools, or will offer them feasible alternatives.

At the beginning of the course, the teacher will explain the protocol of measures and good practices for field trips.

Annotation: within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continuous assessment activities

Title	Weight	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Complementary exercises, workshops and fieldwork	30%	0	0	CM25, SM33
Exam	40%	3	0.12	CM25, SM33
Research project on a territorial/urban planning case	30%	0	0	CM25, KM40, SM33

The evaluation of the subject will be based on the continuous evaluation of the process of acquisition of knowledge and skills by the student and will consist of:

- 1 exam (40% grade).
- Research project with qualitative methods on a territorial/urban planning case. The part corresponding to methodology and field work developed within the diagnosis - case of territorial/urban planning - will be evaluated and coordinated with the Territorial and Environmental Laboratory (30%).
- Complementary exercises, workshops and fieldwork (30%).

The classroom practices (workshops) associated with the completion of the complementary exercises and the research work project are of mandatory attendance. Only students who have completed the corresponding practice in the classroom will be evaluated.

To pass the course, each of the different parts that are part of the assessment process (exam, research project and complementary exercise) must be passed (minimum of 5).

There is a final recovery call for those students who have followed the course and have taken the final exam. To participate in the student's recovery, the weight of those equivalent to a minimum of 2/3 of the total evaluation must have been previously evaluated in a set of activities.

The student will receive a 'not assessable' grade if they have submitted fewer than 30% of the assessment activities.

In the event that the student makes any irregularity (copying, plagiarism, unauthorized use of AI, etc.) that may lead to a significant variation of the grade in an act of evaluation, this act of evaluation will be rated 0, regardless of the disciplinary process that may be instructed. In the event that several irregularities occur in the acts of evaluation of the same subject, the final grade for this subject will be 0. These activities will not be recoverable.

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies is not permitted at any stage of this course. Any work that includes fragments generated with AI will be considered dishonest and may result in a partial or total penalty for the activity, or more severe sanctions in serious cases.

The maximum deadline for providing feedback and communicating the grades of the assessment activities is three weeks.

At the time of each evaluation activity, the teacher will inform the students (moodle) of the procedure and date of revision of the grades.

In case the evaluation activities cannot be done in person, it will adapt its format (keeping the weight) to the possibilities offered by the virtual tools of the UAB and the internet. Homework, activities, class participation and the exam will be done through tutorials, forums, wikis and/or discussions of exercises through Teams, etc. The teacher will ensure that the student can access or offer alternative means that are within their reach.

This subject/module does not incorporate single assessment.

Bibliography

Ayllón Pino, Bruno (2010), "Consejos prácticos para realizar una buena investigación" a Enara Echart Muñoz, Rhina Cabezas Valencia, José Ángel Sotillo Lorenzo (coords.), *Metodología de investigación en cooperación para el desarrollo*. Madrid: Catarata, pp. 57-74.

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Farthing, Stuart (2016), *Research design in urban planning*. Londres: Sage.

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Valles, Miguel (2002), *Entrevistas cualitativas*, Madrid: CIS.

How to cite and elaborate the bibliography: <https://www.uab.cat/web/estudia-i-investiga/com-citar-i-elaborar-la-bibliografia-1345708785665.html>.

Software

Qualitative analysis software (CAQDAS): Atlas.ti (available in the computer rooms of the Faculty of Arts)

Course groups and languages

The information provided is provisional until November 30. After this date, you will be able to consult the language of each group through this [link](#). To access the information, you will need to enter the course CODE

Type of teaching	Group	Language	Semester	Shift
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	11	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(PCAM) Field practices	11	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(PAUL) Classroom practices	12	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(PCAM) Field practices	12	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed