

# Introduction to Academic Research

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## Academic credits

2 KP (3 ECTS)

## Prerequisites

None

## Approved by

Methodological Commission (August, 2021)

## Course author and Lecturer

*Dr paed* Antra Line ([antra\\_line@inbox.lv](mailto:antra_line@inbox.lv))

## Content (Course Annotation)

Students shall study research methods and principles to perform both theoretical and empirical studies at the level necessary for the bachelor paper. Students learn to understand which methods are consistent with achieving the objective of research and will apply them in practice. Students shall learn the methods of collecting and processing data, as well as the compiling and application of statistical texts. At the end of the course, students will repeat and reinforce knowledge of the conditions for carrying out theoretical and empirical research.

## Aim

Learn and deepen the understanding of how to conduct research and prepare for the development of research at bachelor's level.

## Learning Outcomes

### ***Knowledge***

*The students will know:*

the basic principles of research;  
theoretical and empirical research methods.

### ***Assessment***

Independent  
work (1-4);  
Examination

### ***Skills***

*The students will be able to:*

set the objective of the study;  
establish scientific categories of the study;  
to analyze, draw conclusions, to identify relationships;  
developing an academic writing style;  
create polls.

Independent  
work (1-4);  
Examination

### *Competencies*

*the students will be able to:*

apply theoretical and empirical study methods at a level appropriate to bachelor paper Independent work (3-4); Examination

### Assessment

	Learning Outcomes			% of the final score
	Knowledge	Skills	Competencies	
1.Independent work	+	+		15
2.Independent work	+	+		20
3.Independent work	+	+	+	20
4.Independent work	+	+	+	20
Examination	+	+	+	25
				<b>100</b>

## FULL-TIME STUDIES

### Lesson plan

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Academic hours (45 min)</i>
1. The nature of research. Principles of research. Clarification of the key concepts of scientific research.	3
2. Study issues, spotlights and the wording of topics. Determination of the study limits.	3
3. Explanation and meaning of the scientific categories of the study: subject and object of the study, objectives, tasks, hypothesis, main thesis	3
4. Structure of the bachelor's paper and organisation of the research process. Stages of the research.	3
5. Selection, justification and data collection methods. General-theoretical study methods; empirical study methods: qualitative and quantitative study methods.	3
6. Data collection methods and approaches. Survey development. An interview, its types, the basic rules for organising it.	3
7. Data processing methods. The use of the most popular statistical tests with the help of MS E + cel.	3
8. Academic language in bachelor's thesis: stages, characterisation. Differences in academic and unscientific writing style. Choice of literature, analysis, references and bibliography.	3
9. Ethical issues in research: legal and practical aspects. Plagiarism.	3

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10. Drawing up conclusions and proposals for bachelor's thesis. Create a presentation of Bachelor Thesis	3
Examination	2
<i>TOTAL</i>	32

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### Individual study plan

Individual studies	Hours
1. Creating research for the subject, the focus and the study.	12
2. Create and design a questionnaire. Creating interview questions.	12
3. Developing text written in an academic language.	12
4. Presentation of research work.	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>48</b>

### Readings

#### ***Mandatory Readings***

1. Geske, A., Grīnfelds, A. *Izglītības pētniecība: mācību grāmata augstskolu izglītības un pedagogijas profesionālo un akadēmisko studiju programmu studentiem*. Rīga: LU Akadēmiskais apgāds, 2006.
2. Laiveniece, D. *Zinātniskās rakstīšanas skola*. Liepāja: LiePA, 2015.
3. Kristapsone, S. *Zinātniskā pētniecība studiju procesā: mācību grāmata augstskolu sociālo zinātņu studiju programmu studentiem*. Rīga: Biznesa augstskola Turība, 2014.

#### ***Additional Readings***

1. Eko, U. *Kā uzrakstīt diplomdarbu: humanitārās zinātnēs*. Rīga: Jāņa Rozes apgāds, 2006.
2. Sales, Bruce D. & Susan Folkman (eds.). *Ethics in Research With Human Participants*. Washington: American Psychological Association, 2000.
3. Kroplis, A., Rašcevska M. *Kvalitatīvās metodes sociālajās zinātnēs*. Rīga.: RaKa, 2004.
4. Eņģele, Ilva (sast.). *Pētniecības terminu skaidrojošā vārdnīca*. Rīga: RaKa, 2011.
5. *Eiropas pētnieku harta. Uzvedības kodekss pētnieku pieņemšanai darbā.* // Eiropas Savienības oficiālais vēstnesis. Brisele, 22.03.2005.  
[www.aic.lv/rp/Latv/PROT/20061215/C\(2005\)576%20LV.pdf](http://www.aic.lv/rp/Latv/PROT/20061215/C(2005)576%20LV.pdf)