



COURSE SYLLABUS

1. Information about the program

1.1 Higher Education Institution	Babeş-Bolyai University
1.2 Faculty	Faculty of European Studies
1.3 Department	International Relations and German Studies
1.4 Field of study	Interational Relations and European Studies
1.5 Study level	MA
1.6 Programme of study/ Qualification	International Relations, Foreign Policy and Crisis Management

2. Information about the discipline

2.1 Module	Methods of Research and Analysis in Social Sciences						
2.2 Course holder	Șerban Văetiși, Lecturer						
2.3 Seminar holder	Șerban Văetiși, Lecturer						
2.4 Year of study	1	2.5 Semester	1	2.6. Type of assessment ¹	E	2.7 Type of module ²	OB

3. Total estimated time (teaching hours per semester)

3.1 No. of hours per week	3	3.1 of which for course	2	3.3 of which for seminar	1
3.4 Total no. of hours in the curriculum	42	3.5 of which for course	28	3.6 of which for seminar	14
Time distribution: 14 weeks					150
Study by using handbook, reader, bibliography and course notes					15
Additional library/specialised online research, field research					10
Preparation of seminars/laboratories, homework, projects, portfolios and essays					15
Tutoring					8
Examinations					8
Other activities:					15
3.7 Total no. of hours for individual study	25				
3.8 Total no. of hours per semester	56				
3.9 No. of ETCS credit points	6				

4. Prerequisites (where applicable)

4.1 of curriculum	• --
4.2 of competencies	• --

¹ E - exam, ME - multi-term examinations, C - collocutional examination/assessment test

² OB - core module, OP - elective module, F - extracurricular module

5. Conditions (where applicable)

5.1 For the development of the course	• --
5.2 For the development of the seminar/laboratory	• --

6. Specific skills acquired

Professional skills	<p>Students following this course are expected to be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • properly understand and use the theoretical and methodological principles of social and political sciences • understand the rationale and requirements of scientific method and the particularities of analysis utilized in social-political sciences • identify and comment on some major research topics and research strategies in social-political sciences, with focus on international relations topics • use basic concepts, theories, models and methods, appropriate for researching and analysing in the field of social sciences, international relations and related domains of study • build a research design on a selected topic in international relations • respect the appropriate research steps and stages in a selected research topic
Interdisciplinary skills	<p>Students following this course are expected to be able:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to understand and utilize theoretical and methodological principles • to adopt methodological perspective • to build a methodological plan and develop methodological techniques • to develop research and writing skills • to enhance their ability to read analytically and critically • to develop research plan on selected topics • to correlate and communicate information and knowledge in scientific and academic ways

7. Course objectives (based on list of acquired skills)

7.1 General objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The course aims at discussing and practically utilizing the research methods in social-political sciences through the presentation of: (i) methodological and thematic aspects of the study of international relations , (ii) the stages of research design and practice, and (iii) some case studies.
7.2 Specific objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The course is designed from the perspective of theoretical-methodological principles of social-political sciences, and some exemplified topics of research in the field of international relations ▪ Students should improve their research and methodological skills through analysing some proposed topics

8. Contents

8.1 Lecture and Seminar	Teaching methods	Observations			
1. Introducing Research and Analysis in Social Sciences <i>PART I: Research Guidelines</i>	Comprehensive lectures, PowerPoint presentations	Materials used in the educational process:			
2. Formulating topics; Research perspective					
3. Theory in Social-Political Science and Research	Illustrations, contextualization, debates, specific analyses, critical thinking, reviews	Computer, Projector, PowerPoint presentation (slides), visual illustrations (pictures, maps, charts, videos), handouts of bibliography excerpts.			
4. Methodology; Methods Utilized in Social-Political Sciences					
5. The Research Process; Analysis					
6. Paper Structure, Sections and References; Citation Style <i>PART II: Research and Analysis</i>					
7. Research Design					
8. Data Collection					
9. The Case Study			Short video screenings and discussions		
10. Data Analysis (1)					
11. Data Analysis (2)					
12. Evaluating Research					
13. Presenting Research					
14. Conclusions. Preparing Exam					
Bibliography: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bhattacharjee, A. <i>Social Science Research: Principles, Methods, and Practices</i>. University of South Florida, 2012 ▪ Biklen, S.K.; Casella, R. <i>A Practical Guide to Qualitative Dissertation</i>. Columbia University, 2007 ▪ Black, T.R. <i>Understanding Social Science Research</i>. SAGE 202 ▪ Kellstedt, P.; Whitten, G., <i>The Fundamentals of Political Science Research</i>. Cambridge, 2003 ▪ Johnson, J.B. <i>Political Science Research Methods</i>. CQ Press College, 2011 ▪ Ruane, J. M. <i>Essentials of Research Method. A Guide to Social Science Research</i>. Blackwell, 2005 ▪ Staines, G.; Johnson, K.; Bonacci, M. <i>Social Sciences Research: Research, Writing, and Presentation Strategies for Students</i>. Scarecrow Press, 2008 					

9. The correspondence between the content of the course and the expectations of the academic community, professional associations and representative employers in the field:

Upon completing this course the students will deepen their theoretical understanding and methodological approaches of researching in the field of socio-political sciences.

These will help them in their future professional lives and working environments, in the proper professional-scientific activities that they will further develop.

10. Assessment

Type of activity	10.1 Assessment criteria	10.2 Assessment methods	10.3 Percentage of the final grade
Lecture and Seminar	(1) using specific notions introduced and utilized throughout the course (2) communicate information and present individual work	- assessing the capacity to use the research guidelines - assessing the capacity to use actual research methods and types of	100%

		analyses - assessing the capacity to communicate information and present individual work	
--	--	--	--

10.6 Minimum standard of performance:

- The capacity to utilize the research guidelines and presentation of individual works.

Date
signature

.....

Course holder signature

.....

Seminar holder

.....

Date of departmental approval

.....

Head of department signature

.....