

RESEARCH METHODS FOR MASTER STUDENTS

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Course designed for all Master Students of the Program “Strategic Management and Corporate Governance”

I – LEARNING OUTCOMES

The objective of this course is to equip students with the modern methods of qualitative and quantitative studies of management. In addition, student will be required to master methods of literature analysis, problem identification, hypothesis building and testing, planning the research project etc.

II – CONTENT

Session 1. Introduction to management studies

- ABCDE model
- Validity of management studies
- Usefulness of management studies

Session 2. Analysis of the field

- Search tips for relevant scientific literature
- Evaluation of theoretical studies
- Evaluation of empirical studies

Session 3. Setting research goals

- Localization of research field and definition of research subject
- Phenomenon, constructs and possible objects of study

Session 4. Research hypothesis and proposition

- Notion of research hypothesis
- Systems of proposition and integrated models of constructs and moderators
- Criteria and tricks for good models

Session 5. Qualitative study

- Grounded theory
- Case analysis and ethnographical studies
- Action research

Sessions 6. Quantitative studies

- Methods for selecting statistical technique
- Generation of quantitative data – archival search, surveys etc.

Session 7. Planning the master project

- Quality criteria for master thesis
- Ethics of scientific behavior
- Mutual expectation of students and academic advisors – finding the compromise

III – TEACHING METHODS

The course is the mix of lectures (Sessions 1-4) with individual student presentations (Session 5-6) and the final seminar (Sessions 7) devoted to group discussion.

IV – ASSESSMENT METHODS

Participants will be evaluated (1) on the basis of the individual presentation which will be accounted for 30% of the final grade, (2) the written essay (50% of grade); and an oral exam (20% of grade).

V – REFERENCE BOOKS

Gurkov I. Reader and Source-book in Methods of Management Studies. HSE, 2000 with Supplement I, 2007.

Andrews, F.M. et al. A Guide for Selecting Statistical Techniques for Analyzing Social Science Data. 2nd ed. Ann Arbor, MI: ISR, 1981.

Girden E.R. Evaluating Research Article from Start to Finish. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE, 1996.

Active work in Academic Source Premier (PROQUEST) and specialized databases will be required for Sessions 2-6.