



## Syllabus

### Workshop: Designing your Research - 54882

Last update 04-07-2018

HU Credits: 2

Responsible Department: European Studies

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof Gili S Drori

Coordinator Email: [gili.drori@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:gili.drori@mail.huji.ac.il)

Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:30-11:30

Teaching Staff:  
Prof Gili S Drori

Course/Module description:

The course is designed to guide research students (MA and PhD) towards

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*composing the research proposal for their MA thesis or PhD dissertation; it is also relevant for student working towards their research seminar paper. To this aim, the study plan includes acquisition of academic research tools for designing an independent-mentored study, selection of research topic and question, preliminary literature review, building mentorship relations, developing research strategy relevant to the research direction, accreditation in research ethics, and composition of a comprehensive and revised research proposal.*

*Course assignments are sequential, reflecting stages of research planning process and submission deadlines are "road marks" in the progress towards a comprehensive research proposal. Therefore, the research proposal required for completion of the course is an accumulation and revision of assignments submitted along the semester.*

*Course/Module aims:*

*Course is intended to guide research students (MA and PhD) towards composing the research proposal for their MA thesis or PhD dissertation. Specific goals are: acquisition of academic research tools for designing an independent-mentored study, selection of research topic and question, preliminary literature review, building mentorship relations, developing research strategy relevant to the research direction, accreditation in research ethics, and composition of a comprehensive and revised research proposal.*

*Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:*

- Comprehensive, even if preliminary, research proposal for MA thesis or PhD dissertation;*
- Recruitment of faculty mentor;*
- Receipt of CITI ethics in research certificate.*

*Attendance requirements(%):*

*Compulsory-elective; graded.*

*Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Course combines lectures, exercises, discussions, and student presentations, along with one-on-one meetings, on-line certification and plenty of writing and rewriting of the proposal.*

*Course/Module Content:*

*Variety of topics that shall guide research students (MA and PhD) towards*

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composing the research proposal for their MA thesis or PhD dissertation. Among the topics are: *What is an independent-mentored research? Developing criteria for topic selection; Preparing for the literature review; Selection of research question, and relevant research strategy; Planning the process of research and writing; Student presentations of their work.*

Required Reading:

- Booth, Wayne C., Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. 1995. "From topics to questions." *In The Craft of Research*, University of Chicago Press, pp. 35-45.
- Karnieli-Miller, Orit, Roni Strier, and Liat Pessach. 2009. "Power relations in qualitative research." *Qualitative Health Research* 19(2): 279-289
- Geddes, Barbara. 1990. "How the cases you chose affect the answers you get: Selection bias in comparative politics." *Political Analysis*, 2(1): 131-150
- Lipson, Charles. 2005. "Every thesis should have a thesis." *In How to Write a BA Thesis? University of Chicago Press*, pp. 110-119
- Frances Kelly. (2011). "Cooking together disparate things": the role of metaphor in thesis writing. *Innovations in Education and Teaching International*, 48(4): 429-438

Additional Reading Material:

\* Only as far as required for the topical focus of the literature review and the research proposal; and, based on prior consultation with Prof. Drori.

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %  
Presentation 0 %  
Participation in Tutorials 0 %  
Project work 0 %  
Assignments 0 %  
Reports 0 %  
Research project 0 %  
Quizzes 0 %  
Other 100 %  
see additional information

Additional information:

Course/module assessment; Percent of final grade (%):  
10% CITI on-line course and certification  
45% submission of 2 mid-term written assignments and in-class presentation (15% each)  
25% final, comprehensive and re-written research proposal (for thesis or

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*dissertation)*

*10% one-on-one meetings (with Prof. Drori and potential mentor; 5% each)*

*10% attendance and participation*

*Additional information:*

*- Mandatory course for the European Forum's M.A. students registered in the research track and PhD candidates.*