

400895 : Research Master: Survey Research and Psychometrics
General info

Instruction language	English	
Type of Instruction	weekly lectures (14) and practical exercises (14); homework assignments	(Lecture schedule)
Type of exams	written exam; questions and computer exercises	(Examination schedule)
Level:	Master	
Course load:	6 ECTS credits	
Blackboard Info	Link to Blackboard (<i>When you see 'Guest are not allowed in this course', please login at Blackboard itself</i>)	



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Contents

In the first part of the course all aspects of planning a survey are discussed: Pros and cons of different types of data collection (mail surveys, face-to-face interviews, telephone interviews, internet surveys), questionnaire construction, sampling methods, weighting, handling nonresponse (methods for investigating selectivity, the effect of the survey design on response and selectivity, methods for imputation), and controlling data quality (e.g., outlier detection, response styles).

In the second part of the course discusses psychometrics: development of measurement instruments, operationalization of hypothetical concepts from Psychology and the Social Sciences, items scaling using classical test theory, factor analysis, and Mokken scale analysis.

Specifics

The course consists of 14 two-hour lectures and 14 two-hour computer practicals. In the interactive lecture, the lecturer explains the subject matter, asks questions, and invites students to discuss the subject matter. In the practicals, the students apply the acquired methods and techniques; that is, they practice the different aspects of setting up a survey, and conducting psychometric analyses. Students may miss 1 practical. If they miss more than one practical, they must do an additional assignment.

The 168 hours in the course consist of 28 (14 × 2) hours attending lectures, 28 (14 × 2) hours attending practicals, 32 (2 × 16) hours working on the assignments, and 80 hours self-tuition (56 hours for preparing the lectures/practicals and 24 hours for preparing the written exam).

Compulsory Reading

1. The literature will be announced on BlackBoard before the start of the course.

Required Prerequisites

Only for students who are qualified for the Research Master.

Compulsory for

- Master Social and Behavioral Sciences: Minor Social Psychology ([2011, 2012](#))
- Master Social and Behavioral Sciences: Minor Social Sciences ([2011, 2012](#))
- Master Social and Behavioral Sciences: Minor Methodology & Statistics ([2011, 2012](#))

(24-sep-2012)