

A COURSE SYLLABUS – DOCTORAL SCHOOL
regarding the qualification cycle from 2025/2026 to 2028/2029

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT COURSE				
Course title	RESEARCH METHODOLOGY			
Name of the unit running the course	Doctoral School of the University of Rzeszów			
Type of course (<i>obligatory, optional</i>)	compulsory			
Year and semester of studies	First year/First and second semester			
Discipline	legal studies			
Language of Course	Polish language			
Name of Course coordinator	dr hab. Aneta Arkuszewska, prof. UR			
Name of Course lecturer	dr hab. Aneta Arkuszewska, prof. UR			
Prerequisites	Knowledge, skills and social competences related to research methodology, achieved at level 7 of the Polish Qualifications Framework in the discipline of legal sciences.			
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE (100-200 words)				
<p>The course 'Scientific Research Methodology' aims to consolidate and deepen the knowledge, skills and social competences of doctoral students in the field of principles, procedures and techniques of conducting scientific research in the discipline of legal sciences. The course discusses the key stages of the research process, including the formulation of research problems and hypotheses, the selection of appropriate research methods and techniques, the planning and implementation of research, as well as the analysis and interpretation of the results obtained.</p> <p>Particular emphasis is placed on research methods specific to legal sciences, including dogmatic, historical, comparative and empirical methods, as well as on the principles of methodological correctness, reliability and objectivity of research. The course also covers issues of research ethics and researcher responsibility.</p>				
COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES AND METHODS OF EVALUATING LEARNING OUTCOMES				
Learning outcome	The description of the learning outcome defined for the course	Relation to the degree programme outcomes (symbol)	Learning Format (Lectures, classes,...)	Method of assessment of learning outcomes (e.g. test, oral exam, written exam, project,...)
Knowledge (no.)	knows and understands, has knowledge			
P8S_WG/3	Knows, understands and uses specialist terminology used in the national and international scientific and professional environment in the field of legal sciences in which scientific research is planned.	P8S_WG	Conversatory	project, discussion
P8S_WG/4	Has extensive knowledge of the applied research methodology in the discipline of legal sciences, using interdisciplinary research tools and techniques that allow for the most reliable and objective research results.	P8S_WG	Conversatory	written assignments, project
P8S_WK/3	Has extensive knowledge of the possibilities of transferring the results of their scientific activity to the economic and social spheres.	P8S_WK	Conversatory	written assignments, project
Skills (no.)	can			

P8S_UW/1	Is able to use interdisciplinary knowledge to identify and practically solve research problems encountered by: defining the objective, subject and research hypothesis, creating innovative research methods, techniques and tools, and drawing conclusions based on the research results obtained.			P8S_UW	Conversatory	project, discussion
P8S_UK/1	Is able to actively participate in national and international scientific and professional conferences, sharing the results of their research work.			P8S_UK	Conversatory	written assignments, project
P8S_UO/1	Through active participation in the national and international research community, participate in individual and team scientific projects, performing various roles in them.			P8S_UO	Conversatory	written assignments, project
Social competence (no.)	is ready to					
P8S_KR1	Strengthen and develop the ethos of research communities, including conducting scientific activities independently, taking into account the principles of intellectual property protection and public ownership of research results.			P8S_KR	Conversatory	project, discussion
Semester (no.)	Lectures	seminar	Conversatory / Lab classes	Internships	others	ECTS
I	-	-	-	-	30	3
II	-	-	-	-	30	3
total:	-	-	-	-	60	6
METHODS OF INSTRUCTION						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>TRADITIONAL SEMINAR;</i> - <i>SEMINAR WITH MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION;</i> - <i>PROJECT;</i> - <i>DISCUSSION.</i> 						
COURSE CONTENT						
Semester I:						
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to research methodology: the concept of science and scientific research, the specificity of legal sciences, the objectives and functions of legal research. 2. The research process in legal sciences: stages of the research process, formulating the research problem, research objectives and hypotheses. 3. Research methods in legal sciences: dogmatic-legal method, historical-legal method, comparative law, functional and axiological methods. 4. Sources and research material in legal sciences: normative acts, case law, legal doctrine, criteria for the selection and evaluation of research material. 5. Research techniques and research planning: analysis of legal texts, interpretation of law, research design and schedule. 						
Semester II:						
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Empirical methods in legal sciences: analysis of documents and statistical data, surveys, observation, interviews. 						

2. **Analysis and interpretation of research results:** legal reasoning, hypothesis verification, accuracy and reliability of research.
3. **Research ethics and researcher responsibility:** scientific reliability, transparency, data protection, anti-plagiarism, responsibility for research results.
4. **Methodology of scientific work:** structure of a doctoral dissertation, scientific apparatus, rules for citing and editing legal texts.
5. **Presentation, publication and dissemination of research results:** rules for preparing conference papers, publishing in domestic and foreign legal journals, participation in scientific debate and exchange of scientific ideas.

COURSE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The course is taught in semesters I and II. After semester I, the course ends with a ZO1 grade, and after semester II, it ends with an E2 examination. Classes are conducted in direct contact between the doctoral student and the supervisor or assistant supervisor.

In order to pass the course after semester I, a report on the completion of the task must be submitted.

In order to pass the course exam after semester II, at least 51% of the points from the written assignment must be obtained.

In order to obtain a positive grade, the following conversion table is used for the corresponding percentage of points obtained:

- up to 50% - unsatisfactory (the doctoral student is not making progress in scientific research, is not expanding their knowledge, is not studying the literature, is not participating in substantive discussions, is not fulfilling their scientific obligations);
- 51% - 60% - satisfactory (the doctoral student makes negligible progress in scientific research, expands their knowledge, studies basic literature, the discussion is limited to a narrow range of substantive knowledge, fulfils basic scientific duties);
- 61% - 70% - satisfactory plus (the doctoral student makes progress in scientific research, expands their knowledge, studies basic literature, participates substantively in discussions, fulfils their scientific duties);
- 71% - 80% - good (the doctoral student makes significant progress in scientific research, expands their knowledge, studies basic and supplementary literature, participates substantively in discussions, fulfils all scientific duties);
- 81% - 90% - good plus (the doctoral student makes significant progress in scientific research, systematically expands their knowledge, studies basic and supplementary literature, participates substantively in discussions, fulfils all scientific obligations);
- 91% - 100% - very good (the doctoral student makes significant progress in scientific research, systematically expands their knowledge, studies basic, supplementary and advanced literature, participates substantively in discussions, fulfils all scientific obligations);

TOTAL PhD STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE THE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES – NUMBER OF HOURS AND ECTS CREDITS

Activity	Number of hours
Scheduled course contact hours	2 x 30 hrs. – 60 hrs.
Other contact hours involving the teacher (consultation hours, examinations)	4
Non-contact hours – student's own work (preparation for classes or examinations, project, etc.)	116 hrs
Total number of hours	180 hrs.
Total number of ECTS credits	6 ECTS

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Compulsory literature:	J. Zieliński, Metodologia pracy naukowej, Warszawa 2019, J. R. Sielezin, Wybrane zagadnienia z metodologii badań. Kontekst historyczny i aktualne problemy, Wrocław, H. Izdebski, A. Łazarska, Metodologia dysertacji doktorskiej dla prawników – teoria i praktyka, Warszawa 2022,
Complementary literature:	J. Sieńczyło-Chłabcz (red.), Komercjalizacja i transfer wyników badań naukowych i prac rozwojowych z uczelni do gospodarki. Komentarz – nowe regulacje, Warszawa 2019, A. Grobler, Metodologia nauk, Warszawa 2006,

*(1 ECTS CREDIT CORRESPONDS TO 25 - 30 HOURS OF THE TOTAL WORKLOAD OF A DOCTORAL STUDENT, NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THE ESTABLISHED EFFECTS).

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Date and signature of the Course lecturer

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Approved by the Head of the Department or an authorised person