A COURSE SYLLABUS – DOCTORAL SCHOOL

REGARDING THE QUALIFICATION CYCLE 2025/2026 TO 2028/2029

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT COURSE	
Course title	RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
Name of the unit running the course	Rzeszów University Doctoral School
Type of course *(obligatory, optional)*	obligatory
Year and semester of studies	Year I, Semesters I-II
Discipline	Economics and Finance
Language of Course	Polish / English
Name of Course coordinator	Dr hab. Grzegorz Hajduk, prof. UR
Name of Course instructor	Dr hab. Grzegorz Hajduk, prof. UR
Prerequisites	Academic education at master's degree level. Knowledge, skills and social competences at level 7 of the Polish Qualifications Framework.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE
(100-200 words)

The aim of the course is to consolidate the knowledge, skills and social competences necessary for planning, designing and conducting scientific research in the field of economics and finance. The course introduces doctoral students to a set of rules, procedures and techniques used in the scientific research process, with particular emphasis on methodological rigour, accuracy and reliability of analyses.

As part of the course, doctoral students gain knowledge on conceptualising research problems, formulating research objectives and questions, selecting appropriate research methods and techniques, and the principles of collecting and analysing quantitative and qualitative data. An important element of the course is preparation for critical analysis of scientific literature and conscious use of digital tools and artificial intelligence in research, with respect for the principles of ethics and research responsibility.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES AND METHODS OF EVALUATING LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning outcome	The description of the learning outcome defined for the course	Reference to learning outcomes for qualifications at Level 8 of the Polish Qualification Framework (PRK) (symbol)	Learning Format (Lectures, classes,...)	Method of assessment of learning outcomes (e.g. test, oral exam, written exam, project,...)
Knowledge: (no.)	***knows and understands***			
P8S_WG3	Knows, understands and applies specialist methodological terminology used in national and international academic and professional environments in the discipline of economics and finance, in which scientific research is planned.	**P8S_WG**	seminar	discussion, written assignments, exam

P8S_WG4	Has extensive knowledge of applied research methodology in the discipline of economics and finance, including interdisciplinary research tools and techniques enabling the achievement of reliable and objective research results.	**P8S_WG**	seminar	discussion, written assignments, exam
P8S_WK3	Has knowledge of the possibilities of transferring scientific research results to the economic and social environment, with particular emphasis on research conducted in the discipline of economics and finance. Learning format: seminar	**P8S_WK**	seminar	discussion, written assignments, exam
Skills: (no.)	***is able to***			
P8S_UW1	Based on interdisciplinary knowledge, is able to identify and solve scientific research problems, define research objectives, formulate hypotheses and research subjects, select and improve research techniques, methods and tools, and draw conclusions based on research results.	P8S_UW	seminar	discussion, written assignments
P8S_UK1	Is able to communicate research results and actively participate in scientific discussions within national and international academic and professional environments.	**P8S_UK**	seminar	discussion, written assignments
P8S_UO1	Is able to participate in individual and team-based scientific research projects, including interdisciplinary initiatives, performing roles appropriate to the nature and stage of the research process.	**P8S_UO**	seminar	discussion, written assignments
Social competence: (no.)	***is ready to***			
P8S_KR1	Is ready to strengthen and develop the ethos of the scientific community, conduct research in an independent and responsible manner, and comply with ethical principles of	**P8S_KR**	seminar	discussion, written assignments

	scientific research as well as regulations concerning intellectual property protection and public ownership of research results.			

LEARNING FORMAT – NUMBER OF HOURS

Semester (no.)	Lectures	Seminars	Lab classes	Placements	other	ECTS
I	-	-	-	-	**30**	**3 ECTS**
II	-	-	-	-	**30**	**3 ECTS**
total:	-	-	-	-	**60**	**6 ECTS**

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- seminar in a traditional format;
- seminar with multimedia presentation;
- project;
- discussion.

COURSE CONTENT

Semester I

Specificity of scientific research in the discipline of economics and finance: subject, objectives and limitations of research.
Economic phenomena as the subject of scientific research.
Criteria for selecting a research problem: originality, cognitive significance and practical relevance.
Defining the subject and scope of scientific research.
Research objectives and research questions: relationships, hierarchy and coherence.
The role of theory in explaining economic phenomena.
Critical review of scientific literature as the basis for research design.
Strategies for conducting literature searches in national and international academic databases.
Use of digital tools and artificial intelligence in literature analysis.

Semester II
Research paradigms in economics and finance, with reference to management sciences.
Selection of the research approach (quantitative, qualitative, mixed methods): premises and implications.
Structure of the research process: from problem formulation to inference.
Methodological rigour in scientific research: validity, reliability and credibility.
Selection of research methods and techniques appropriate to research problems and objectives.
Selection of research samples and data sources.
Methods of collecting primary and secondary data.
Design and pilot testing of research instruments.
Methods of quantitative and qualitative data analysis.
Limitations of scientific research and methods for their identification.

COURSE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Classes are conducted in direct contact with the supervisor or auxiliary supervisor. Upon completion of Semester I, the course is completed with a graded pass (ZO1).
The condition for obtaining the pass is the submission of a report on the implementation of assigned tasks, confirming progress in the planning and design of scientific research.

Upon completion of Semester II, the course ends with an examination (E2).
The condition for obtaining a positive examination grade is achieving at least 51% of the total possible points.

Grading criteria

The final grade is determined based on the percentage of points obtained, according to the following scale:
up to 50% – fail
The doctoral student does not demonstrate progress in research work, does not expand knowledge, does not study the required scientific literature, does not participate in substantive academic discussion, and does not fulfil academic obligations.
51–60% – satisfactory
The doctoral student demonstrates limited progress in research work, studies basic scientific literature, and participates in discussion to a limited substantive extent.
61–70% – satisfactory plus
The doctoral student demonstrates progress in research work, studies basic scientific literature, participates in substantive academic discussion, and fulfils academic obligations.
71–80% – good
The doctoral student demonstrates clear progress in research work, studies basic and supplementary scientific literature, actively participates in academic discussion, and fulfils all academic obligations.
81–90% – good plus
The doctoral student demonstrates significant progress in research work, systematically expands knowledge, studies basic and supplementary scientific literature, and actively participates in academic discussion.
91–100% – very good
The doctoral student demonstrates significant and systematic progress in research work, studies basic, supplementary and additional scientific literature beyond the required scope, actively participates in academic discussion, and fully fulfils all academic obligations.

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

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

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Compulsory literature:	1. Stachak S., Podstawy metodologii nauk ekonomicznych, Difin, Warszawa 2013 2. Podstawy metodologii badań w naukach o zarządzaniu, red. W. Czakon, Wolters Kluwer, Warszawa 2015.

	3. Wojciechowska R., Nowogródzka T., Miciuła I., Metodologia badań naukowych w naukach ekonomicznych Texter, Warszawa 2016.
Complementary literature:	1. Babbie E., Podstawy badań społecznych, PWN, Warszawa 2025. 2. Popper K.R, Logika odkrycia naukowego Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, Warszawa 2002. 3. Burnewicz J., Filozofia i metodologia nauk ekonomicznych PWN, Warszawa 2021. 4. Badania jakościowe. Metody i narzędzia, red. D. Jemielniak, Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, Warszawa 2012. 5. Metody badań ilościowych w zarządzaniu, red. Sułkowski, Ł., Lenart-Gansiniec, R., Kolasińska-Morawska, K. Wydawnictwo Społecznej Akademii Nauk, Łódź 2021. 6. Wójcik K., Piszę akademicką pracę promocyjną: licencjacką, magisterską, doktorską Wolters Kluwer Polska, Warszawa 2012.

*(1 ECTS POINT CORRESPONDS TO 25–30 HOURS OF TOTAL WORK BY THE DOCTORAL STUDENT REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE THE INTENDED RESULTS)

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Date and signature of the Course instructor

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Approved by the Head of the Department or an authorised person