

A COURSE SYLLABUS – DOCTORAL SCHOOL
REGARDING THE QUALIFICATION CYCLE FROM 2025/2026 TO 2028/2029

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT COURSE				
Course title	DOCTORAL SEMINAR			
Name of the unit running the course	Rzeszów University Doctoral School			
Type of course (<i>obligatory, optional</i>)	compulsory subject			
Year and semester of studies	years I-IV, semesters: I-VII			
Discipline	Economics and Finance			
Language of Course	Polish/English			
Name of Course coordinator	Dr Anna Barwińska-Małajowicz, Professor at the University of Rzeszów			
Name of Course instructor	Dr Anna Barwińska-Małajowicz, Professor at the University of Rzeszów			
Prerequisites	Academic education at master's degree level (knowledge of economic theory within the scope of the economics programme and knowledge of statistics and econometrics). Knowledge, skills and social competences at level 7 of the Polish Qualifications Framework. Knowledge of a foreign language at level B2.			
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE (100-200 words)				
<p>The aim of the Doctoral Seminar course is to develop doctoral students' knowledge, skills and social research competences in the field of economics and finance, with particular emphasis on their own research on employee competences and inequalities in the Polish labour market in the era of Industry 5.0.</p> <p>The course prepares doctoral students to conduct independent, innovative scientific research, deepens their competences in the field of critical analysis of the subject literature (national and international), formulating research problems and hypotheses, and developing theoretical and empirical chapters of their dissertations.</p> <p>The seminar also covers the selection of appropriate economic analysis tools, quantitative and qualitative methods used in labour market research and inequality processes, the interpretation of empirical research results and their placement within current economic paradigms, and the development of skills in presenting results, critical scientific discussion, and evaluating one's own work and the research results of other authors. Particular emphasis is placed on assessing the implications for economic and social policy, preparing scientific articles and conference presentations, enabling doctoral students to transfer their knowledge to scientific discourse and economic practice. The implementation of the research plan is monitored through individual consultations. The outcome of the doctoral seminar is the preparation of a doctoral dissertation and readiness to actively participate in national and international scientific discourse.</p>				
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.)	<i>knows and understands</i>			
P8S_WG1	Possesses theoretical knowledge supported by research experience and is familiar with current scientific achievements, including global ones, in the field of education in the scientific discipline of economics and finance, as well as general issues in related disciplines and research topics to a degree that allows them to confirm or refute existing paradigms.	P8S_WG	seminar	oral presentation, discussion
P8S_WG2	Knows the directions of scientific research development in the scientific discipline of economics and finance and the latest discoveries, including global ones, in the discipline in which the education takes place.	P8S_WG	seminar	oral presentation, discussion
P8S_WG3	Knows, understands and is able to apply concepts used by scientists and specialists in the discipline of economics and finance in their native language and in a foreign language that is leading in the discipline.	P8S_WG	seminar	oral presentation, discussion
Skills: (no.)	<i>is able to</i>			
P8S_UW1	Based on their knowledge in various fields of science, they are able to identify and solve scientific research problems, define objectives, formulate hypotheses and research topics, select and improve research techniques, methods and tools, and draw conclusions based on scientific research results.	P8S_UW	seminar	oral presentation, discussion, written assignments
P8S_UW2	They are able to select and use available scientific literature to diagnose and solve research problems and innovative activities in their research work, as well as apply the appropriate tools to create new elements of scientific output.	P8S_UW	seminar	oral presentation, discussion, written assignments
P8S_UW3	Using their interdisciplinary knowledge to analyse and evaluate the results of scientific research, expert work and other scientific studies, they are able to formulate opinions, including critical judgements.	P8S_UW	seminar	oral presentation, discussion, written assignments
P8S_UK6	They are able to speak in public to present the results of scientific research and participate in discussions on scientific, social and professional topics in an international environment, using a foreign language at level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.	P8S_UK	seminar	oral presentation, discussion, written assignments

Social competence: (no.)	<i>is ready to</i>						
P8S_KK1	Is prepared to critically evaluate achievements in the scientific discipline of economics and finance and to critically evaluate the contribution of their own research results to the scientific development of the discipline in which they are studying.					P8S_KK	seminar oral presentation, discussion, written assignments
P8S_KK3	Thanks to their extensive knowledge, solves various cognitive and practical problems.					P8S_KK	seminar oral presentation, discussion, written assignments
LEARNING FORMAT – NUMBER OF HOURS							
Semester (no.)	Lectures	Seminars	Lab classes	Placements	other	ECTS	
I - VII	-	-	-	-	7 x 15 hrs. - 105 hrs.	7 x 2 ECTS – 14 ECTS	
METHODS OF INSTRUCTION							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACADEMIC DISCUSSION, - STUDY OF ACADEMIC LITERATURE, - MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION, - PREPARATION AND PRESENTATION OF RESEARCH OBJECTIVES, RESEARCH METHODS, RESEARCH RESULTS, - FINAL PROJECTS, - PROGRESS IN THE PREPARATION OF A DOCTORAL DISSERTATION 							
COURSE CONTENT							
Topics covered in classes, divided into semesters:							
Semester I							
Topic 1: Analysis of available scientific literature and the state of research in the area of research interests.							
Topic 2: Determining the scope of research interests based on a review of the literature on the subject.							
Topic 3: Rules for preparing a scientific text, including citation and editing.							
Topic 4: Rules for applying for research grants.							
Semester II							
Topic 1: Determining the topic of the doctoral dissertation, the subject and objectives of one's own research.							
Topic 2: Developing an outline of the doctoral dissertation concept.							
Topic 3: Formulating the assumptions and objectives of the doctoral dissertation as well as research questions and hypotheses.							
Topic 4: Selecting and agreeing on the research methodology to be used in conducting scientific research within the scope of the dissertation.							
Topic 5: Selecting the methodology for the graphic and statistical presentation of results.							
Semester III							
Topic 1: Substantive preparation of pilot studies.							
Topic 2: Conducting pilot studies.							
Topic 3: Analysis and interpretation of the results obtained; validation of the research methodology.							
Semester IV							
Topic 1: Conducting the actual research and preliminary discussion of the research results.							

Semester V

Preparation and presentation of individual chapters of the doctoral dissertation, followed by discussion.

Topic 1: Preparation and presentation of the theoretical part.

Topic 2: Preparation and presentation of the methodological part.

Semester VI

Preparation and presentation of individual chapters of the doctoral dissertation, followed by discussion.

Topic 1: Preparation and presentation of the empirical part; discussion of results.

Topic 2: Verification of research hypotheses based on the results obtained.

Topic 3: Formulation of conclusions resulting from the dissertation and preparation of a summary of the research work carried out.

Topic 4: Preparation of a scientific article.

Semester VII

Topic 1: Final editing and formatting of the doctoral dissertation in accordance with the applicable guidelines. Verification of the dissertation text in an anti-plagiarism system.

Topic 2: Preparing a multimedia presentation of your doctoral thesis.

COURSE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The assessment covers the doctoral student's continuous work in each semester and academic year in the following areas: conducting research, expanding knowledge, studying literature, commitment and progress in preparing the doctoral dissertation.

The course ends after each semester of implementation:

pass – pass,

fail – fail.

Passing occurs after each semester on the basis of final projects (multimedia presentations), discussions and class participation. In order to pass, a conversion factor is applied for the corresponding percentage of points obtained.

Requirements

The following percentage of points obtained is used to assess the course:

- up to 60% - fail - the doctoral student is not making progress in their research, is not expanding their knowledge, is not studying the reading list, is not participating in substantive discussions, is not fulfilling their academic obligations;

- 61% - 100% - pass - the doctoral student is making progress in scientific research, expanding their knowledge, studying basic and supplementary literature, participating in substantive discussions, fulfilling all scientific 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	7 x 15 hrs. – 105 hrs.
Other contact hours involving the instructor (duty hours, examinations)	6
Non-contact hours – student's own work (preparation for classes or examinations, project, etc.)	309

Total number of hours	420
Total number of ECTS credits	7 x 2 ECTS – 14 ECTS
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS	
Compulsory literature:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Blair, P. Q., Debroy, P., & Heck, J. (2021). Skills, degrees and labor market inequality (NBER Working Paper No. 28991). National Bureau of Economic Research. https://www.nber.org/papers/w28991 2. Block, S., & Harris, B. H. (Eds.). (2021). Inequality and the labor market. Brookings Institution Press. 3. Creswell, J. W. (2013). Projektowanie badań naukowych. Metody jakościowe, ilościowe i mieszane. Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego. 4. Drab Kurowska, A., & Budziewicz-Guźlecka, A. (2025). Kompetencje przyszłości. Gospodarka 5.0 i zielona. Wydawnictwo Naukowe Uniwersytetu Szczecińskiego. 5. Drabik-Podgórna, V., & Podgórný, M. (2016). Zawód czy kompetencje? Wymagania rynku pracy a wspieranie rozwoju kariery. Adam Marszałek. 6. Jeruszka, U. (Red.). (2016). Kompetencje: Aspekty teoretyczne i praktyczne. Difin. 7. Madrak-Grochowska, M., Szczepaniak, M., & Szulc-Obłóza, A. (2020). Nierówności dochodowe a kapitał ludzki i rynek pracy w wybranych krajach Unii Europejskiej. Wyd. Nauk. Uniwersytetu Mikołaja Kopernika. 8. Sliwiński, R. (Ed.). (2026). Leadership challenges: Sustainability, skills and inclusivity in Industry 5.0. Routledge.
Complementary literature:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apanowicz, J. (2005). Metodologiczne uwarunkowania pracy naukowej. Difin. 2. Hartley, J. (2008). Academic writing and publishing: A practical handbook. Routledge. 3. Poláková, M., Novotný, M., & Svobodová, L. (2023). Soft skills and their importance in the labour market under the conditions of Industry 5.0. Heliyon, 9(7), e17543. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2023.e17543 4. Polski Instytut Ekonomiczny. (2022). Kompetencje pracowników dziś i jutro. https://pie.net.pl/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Kompetencje-pracow-17.05.2022-B.pdf 5. Sępień, B. (2022). Zasady pisania tekstów naukowych. Difin. 6. Siedlecka, A., & Guzal Dec, D. (Red.). (2022). Rynek pracy wobec wyzwań przyszłości: Ewolucja i współczesne uwarunkowania. Wydawnictwo Akademii Białskiej Nauk Stosowanych im. Jana Pawła II. 7. Stachak, S. (2013). Podstawy metodologii nauk ekonomicznych. Difin. <p>Seminar participants are also required to keep up to date with current Polish and foreign literature on the research topic in question, in the broadest sense of the term.</p>

*(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