**Title of the course:** Research Methods at Masters' Level

**Course code:** PSYM21-105

**Head of the course:** Urbán Róbert

**Academic degree:** DSc

**Position:** Professor

**MAB status:** A (T)

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| **Az oktatás célja angolul** |

**Aim of the course:** We aim to provide students with the fundamental knowledge of research methods and designs applied in clinical and health psychology. We aim to facilitate students' understanding of using valid scientific methods to improve and create knowledge of psychology. The course covers every topic needed to complete their Master's Theses. We also aspire to train students with the foundations of the scientist-practitioner model.

**Learning outcome, competences**

knowledge:

After completing this course

* students will know the concepts of the most common research designs that are suitable to examine and interpret a variety of psychological phenomena,
* they will understand the fundamental aspects of how to plan and implement scientific research within the field,
* they will know the strengths and limitations of the covered research designs.

attitude:

* the course strengthens the interest in formulating research questions and implementing scientific research.
* the course helps to identify relevant research questions.

skills:

After completing this course, students will be able

* to develop a detailed research question and hypothesis,
* to analyze, critically interpret, and present clinical research data flexibly,
* to seek and find new associations,
* to plan and implement scientific research within the field of clinical and health psychology,
* to apply critical reading skills while evaluating scientific works.

autonomy, responsibility:

* Students are able to interpret and apply the presented research methods and tools
* The acquired knowledge should be applied in accordance with ethical standards, when working on a research project or interpreting the relevant literature.

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| **Az oktatás tartalma angolul** |

**Topics of the course**

* Why are research methods necessary for psychologists working in applied settings?
* Challenges of psychological research: reliability crisis, deceptive research practices and the scientific community's response to them
* Advanced literature searching
* Meta-analysis and systematic reviews: basic concepts
* Use of classical and modern psychometrics in the development and adaptation of scales and measures. Investigating validity: construct validity, incremental validity.
* Qualitative research methods: theory and examples.
* Specific research methods: experimental research, efficacy studies (RCT), cohort, case-control, cross-sectional, survey research, diagnostic research, single-subject study, experience sampling research.
* The structure and the critical appraisal of scientific reports

**Learning activities, learning methods**

lecture, seminar, practice tasks, students' presentations

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| **A számonkérés és értékelés rendszere angolul** |

**Learning requirements, mode of evaluation, criteria of evaluation:**

requirements

*The grade comprises the results of the exams and the evaluation of the research proposal:*

Two exams on research methods

Research proposal including the presentation

Student activities (optional).

The exams on research methods will cover the topics and materials discussed during the classes. They will be closed book exams. The exam will include multiple-choice and short questions.

**Research proposal:**

The research proposal is a result of pairwork **(2 students);** therefore two students collaborate to develope one research proposal. Either the students find out a research topic on their own, or the instructor provides one to work on.

Research proposals should be written in accordance with the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association.

The research proposal should include both an appendix containing any measures that are proposed to use, and the application for ethical approval, according to the Institutional Review Board of ELTE.

**Guidelines for preparation of research proposal:**

Proposals should be written in APA style, should include a bibliography, and should not exceed 20 double-spaced, typed pages. The instructor should be able to carry out the proposed study based on what is written in the proposal (i.e., either citations for stimuli and/or measures, or the stimuli and/or measures themselves, as well as instructions for procedures where appropriate).

The proposal must specify an empirical study or a meta-analysis.

The format should be done in APA style and include:

* Title Page
* Abstract
* Introduction
  + Relevance of the research
  + A short summary of relevant previous research
  + Research questions and/or hypotheses
  + Conceptual map – if it is applicable.
* Method
  + Sampling
  + Measures
  + Procedure
  + Statistical analysis plan
* Discussion- Since there will be no data, include a critical assessment of the proposed study (limitations) in this section.
* References (APA style should be used)
* Appendix - If using any measures.

mode of evaluation: exam mark

criteria of evaluation:

* Clarity of statement of the problem and variables
* Adequacy of literature review
* Clarity of the methods of the study including the sample, hypotheses, measures and procedures.

**Course-specific information (specific to a given lecture or seminar)**

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| **General data** |

**Specific (sub)title of the course (if relevant):**

**Specific (sub)code of the course (if relevant):**

**Date and place of the course:**

**Name of the lecturer:**

**Department of the lecturer:**

**Email of the lecturer:**

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| **Specific syllabus/schedule of the lecture/seminar (if relevant)** |



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| **Further specific information (eg. requirements) (if relevant)** |