

Course Unit: 923817 – Methods and Technics of Research in Social Sciences

Year 2 Semester 1 ISCED Code: 312 ECTS: 6

Type of Course Unit: Compulsory Delivery Mode: Face-to-face Language of Instruction: Portuguese

COURSE COORDINATOR: Sandra Isabel Gonçalves da Saúde

HOURS OF WORK

TOTAL HOURS	Contact Hours								Hours in autonomous work
	Theory	Theory and practice	Practical and laboratory work	Field work	Seminar	Internship	Tutorial guidance	Other	
150		75							75

Prerequisites (if applicable): <<Max 500 characters with spaces>>

LEARNING OUTCOMES (knowledge, skills and competence)

- Develop concepts, methodologies and techniques related to social investigation;
- Acquire techniques for information analysis and handling
- Explicit the application and the scope of each investigation methodology and social intervention so as to confer objectivity, accuracy and quality to the performance

CONTENTS

- Introductory questions about the scientific process;
- From the rupture and construction till the observation;
- The role of the observer;
- Methodological models of investigation.
- From the concepts to the operationalisation of the variables;
- The selection of the target population and modes of application of the tools;
- Information handling, analysis and presentation (non-documental techniques);
- Documental techniques: procedures, analysis and presentation of the information

DEMONSTRATION OF THE CONTENTS COHERENCE WITH THE COURSE UNIT'S LEARNING OUTCOMES

The first objective of this unit is to characterize the scientific assumptions of the social research as well as the procedures for the identification of a research object and the role of observer. This unit will also focus on the strategies of construction and application of tools to gather information, in direct or indirect observation, and in the respective mode of processing information. The main methodologies will also be presented accentuating their characteristics, objectives, steps and constraints, in order for the students understand the use of the learned observation techniques in a coherent process of research. At the end of this curricular unit the students will be able to develop concepts, methodologies and techniques related to social research, acquire techniques for information analysis, apply each research methodology and social intervention to confer objectivity, accuracy and quality to the performance of the social worker.

TEACHING METHODOLOGIES

- Study of the themes through explanation and active work dynamics involving the students.
- Simulations and resolution of coursework exercises related to the defined course contents.
- Sharing experiences and class presentation of the conclusions of the small group report.
- Encouraging autonomous work directed to the research and gathering of information, which will be worked out and presented in class.

DEMONSTRATION OF THE COHERENCE BETWEEN THE TEACHING METHODOLOGIES AND THE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The exploration of issues through expository methods and dynamics of active work, aims to engage students master concepts, methodologies and appropriate techniques to the applied social research. Through simulations and problem solving in the classroom, student will work construction and application of treatment techniques and analysis. The autonomous work-oriented research and gathering information will be presented in the classroom developing in the students skills to adapt the research methodology in the various contexts of social intervention.

EVALUATION METHODS

Written essay developed by groups based on the test of the knowledge acquire to be presented and discussed in class;
Individual written test.

MAIN BIBLIOGRAPHY

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