

Basic Course 3: Methods in Social Sciences

About the course

subject	Den internationale samfundsvidenskabelige bacheloruddannelse
Activity type	Basic course
Teaching language	English
Registration	<p>Studerende på 1. semester bliver automatisk tilmeldt. Hvis du skal tage kurset igen, og ikke går på 1. semester, skal du kontakte sib-exams@ruc.dk.</p> <p>Students on their 1st semester will be registered automatically. If you are taking the course again and are not on your 1st semester, please contact sib-exams@ruc.dk.</p>
Detailed description of content	<p>The course introduces the problem oriented project work as the interdisciplinary "research-like" activity (Andersen & Dupont 2014: 123) that is the hallmark of RUC's pedagogical model. The course goes over the different phases of project work, and associated concepts such as problem area, problem formulation and project design etc. The student will also be introduced to the how to search for literature and gain an understanding of the role of the existing literature in project work. Furthermore, the course introduces students to meta-theoretical aspects underpinning concrete project work, such as ontology and epistemology, and their connections to methodological directions of project work. The focus is laid on students' understanding of the need for a logical coherence between meta-theoretical aspects and other, methodological and theoretical components of project design. Students are likewise introduced to the main types of data and sources of data, including critical discussions about the quality assessment of sources of data and evidence used in academic reasoning. Finally, the course covers the correct way of referencing and provides students with a comprehensive understanding of plagiarism in the academic context.</p> <p>List of classes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction: Interdisciplinary Project Work and Problem formulation2. Project design3. Literature4. Philosophy of social science and methodology5. Sources of data and methods6. Theory and uses of theory7. Evidence, analysis and quality assessment8. Writing project report, referencing and plagiarism<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Librarian-led introduction to literature search• Librarian-led introduction to Peergrade
Expected work effort (ECTS-declaration)	<p>The methods course is worth 5 ECTS which amounts to 135 hours of work per semester.</p> <p>It includes 28 contact hours (8 classes: 2x2 hr; 6x4 hr) and additional 2 hours of library-organized literature search course and 2 hours of library-organized introduction to Peergrade i.e. total of 32 contact hours.</p> <p>Additionally, you are expected to spend 2.5 hour preparing for each hour of course taught by the course instructors (except for the librarian-led sessions) hours preparing for every class (70 hours total).</p> <p>The final 23 hours are spent on working on the exam.</p>
Course material and Reading list	<p>Flick, U. (2018) An Introduction to Qualitative Research” 6th edition. Sage publications</p> <p>Olsen, P.B. & Pedersen, K. (Eds) (2019) Problem-oriented project work - a workbook. Roskilde University Press.</p> <p>Bendix Petersen, E. & Sørensen, K. A. (2020) The Group Project: How to do it. A handbook for university students. RUC</p> <p>4 select (anonymized) project reports that the course instructors have received permission to use (from reports' student authors)</p> <p>Wright Mills (1959) The sociological imagination. Oxford University Press (Chapter 7: The human variety)</p> <p>Bryman, A. (2016) "Getting started: reviewing the literature" (Chapter 5). In: Social research methods. Oxford University Press, pp. 90-119</p> <p>White, P. (2010) “Making use of secondary data” In. in N. Clifford, and G. Valentine (eds), Key Methods in Geography, London: Sage, pp. 61-76</p>

	<p>Bradbury-Jones, C., Taylor, J., Herber, O. 2014. How theory is used and articulated in qualitative research: development of a new typology. Social science & medicine Vol.120, pp.135-141.</p> <p>Meyer, S., Ward, P. 2014. 'How to' Use social theory within and throughout qualitative research in healthcare contexts. Sociology Compass, Vol.8(5), pp.525-539</p> <p>Northey, M., Tepperman, L. & Albanese, P. 2012. "Exercising Judgment and Good Ethics" (Chapter 6), In: Making sense in the social sciences: a student's guide to research and writing. York: Oxford University Press, pp. 90-113</p>
Evaluation- and feedback forms	Students receive written feedback on their portfolio and oral feedback on their in-class exercise work.
Administration of exams	SIB Registration & Exams (sib-exams@ruc.dk)
Responsible for the activity	Johanna Hood (hood@ruc.dk)
ECTS	5
Learning outcomes and assessment criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Knowledge about central forms of knowledge production in social sciences and analysis with emphasis on problem formulation, project design and scientific literature ◦ Knowledge about how to work with problem oriented project work • Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Understanding of the role scientific literature plays in the project work. The student is able to carry out a relevant literature search and justify the relevance of the selected literature in relation to a problem formulation ◦ Skills to develop a project design based on a social scientific problem ◦ Understand the connection between how social scientific problems are formulated and the answers specific problem formulations can give. ◦ Knowledge and understanding of good academic practise, including correct referencing and compile a bibliography
Overall content	The course introduces different social scientific methods. The course introduces the problem oriented project work and the different phases of project work, including concepts like: Problem area, problem formulation and project design etc. The student will also be introduced to the how to search for literature and gain understanding of the role of literature in project work. Furthermore, the course includes discussion of academic reasoning and how to assess the quality of project work. Finally, the course gives examples of academic misconduct and thereby give the student a critical understanding of the use of sources and other kinds of materials
Teaching and working methods	The course consists of both lectures and seminars. As part of the course, the students will participate in group work.
Type of activity	Mandatory course
Form of examination (p1)	<p>Individual written take-home assignment given by the lecturer.</p> <p>The character limit of the assignment is: 7,200-12,000 characters, including spaces. The character limit includes the cover, table of contents, bibliography, figures and other illustrations, but exclude any appendices.</p> <p>The duration of the take-home assignment is 7 days and may include weekends and public holidays.</p> <p>Assessment: 7-point grading scale.</p>
Form of Re-examination (p1)	Samme som ordinær eksamen
Exam code(s)	Exam code(s) : U26756

Course days:

Hold: 1

BC3 Social Scientific Methods (SIB)

time 05-09-2024 12:15 til
05-09-2024 16:00

location 00.1-009 - store auditorie (220)

Teacher Johanna Hood (hood@ruc.dk)

BC3 Social Scientific Methods (SIB)

time 12-09-2024 08:15 til
12-09-2024 12:00

location 00.1-009 - store auditorie (220)

Teacher Johanna Hood (hood@ruc.dk)

BC3 Social Scientific Methods (SIB)

time 26-09-2024 08:15 til
26-09-2024 12:00

location 00.1-009 - store auditorie (220)

Teacher Johanna Hood (hood@ruc.dk)

BC3 Social Scientific Methods (SIB)

time 03-10-2024 08:15 til
03-10-2024 12:00

location 00.1-009 - store auditorie (220)

Teacher Johanna Hood (hood@ruc.dk)

BC3 Social Scientific Methods (SIB)

time 10-10-2024 08:15 til
10-10-2024 12:00

location 00.1-009 - store auditorie (220)

Teacher Johanna Hood (hood@ruc.dk)

BC3 Social Scientific Methods (SIB)

time 24-10-2024 08:15 til
24-10-2024 12:00

location 00.1-009 - store auditorie (220)

Teacher Johanna Hood (hood@ruc.dk)

BC3 Social Scientific Methods (SIB)

time 31-10-2024 08:15 til
31-10-2024 12:00

location 00.1-009 - store auditorie (220)

Teacher Johanna Hood (hood@ruc.dk)

BC3 Social Scientific Methods (SIB)

time 07-11-2024 08:15 til
07-11-2024 12:00

location 00.1-009 - store auditorie (220)

Teacher Johanna Hood (hood@ruc.dk)

BC3 Social Scientific Methods (SIB) - Exam

time 03-01-2025 10:00 til
10-01-2025 10:00

forberedelsesnorm ikke valgt

forberedelsesnorm D-VIP ikke valgt

BC3 Social Scientific Methods (SIB) - Reexam

time 21-02-2025 10:00 til
28-02-2025 10:00

forberedelsesnorm ikke valgt

forberedelsesnorm D-VIP ikke valgt