

Course title	Research Methods				
Course code	OSH620				
Course type	Compulsory				
Level	Master (2 nd Cycle)				
Year / Semester	1 st Year/ 1 st semester				
Teacher's name	TBA				
ECTS	10	Lectures / week	3 hours / 14 weeks	Laboratories / week	N/A
Course purpose and objectives	<p>Students upon completion will have the necessary academic skills that will be needed for an in-depth research study in the area of their choice. They should have a broad knowledge of various data collection and analysis techniques and appreciate the significance of research in the emergency and security domain to industry and government. In addition, the student should be able to evaluate the effectiveness of the research of others, and will be prepared to conduct his or her own research project and be capable of analysing and interpreting the data from this project. Practically, the student will be in a position to draft a research proposal, design and implement an emergency and security research campaign and to carry out a mini-research project as well as present the research report to interested parties. Part of the work will be to successfully disseminate the results of this project.</p>				
Learning outcomes	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan, develop and deliver a research paper to academic standards • Critically appraise literature sources and conduct and compile a critical review of relevant literature to academic standards, which identifies gaps in the literature and proposes further studies to help close those gaps • Choose and apply the appropriate methodology to meet the student's specific research objectives for an identified study • Design and apply appropriate sampling frames for research purposes • Design and apply data collection programmes, including design and use of appropriate data collection instruments Illustrate the difference between quantitative and qualitative research techniques and use them in practical applications • Choose appropriate techniques for the analysis of collected data and conduct basic statistical analysis using the computer software package SPSS. 				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design, implement presentation of articulate research findings to the wider public in a way that they will be subject of successful dissemination 		
Prerequisites	None	Corequisites	None
Course content	<p>Research Methods aims to familiarize students with methods of Research and to assist them in the presentation, interpretation and application of research data. It is the course, where students, will develop an understanding of the importance of setting mechanisms to collect and analyse data as the only tool of risk informed decisions.</p> <p>A. The role of OSH research</p> <p>B. Main styles of research (hypothetico-deductive/quantitative and inductive/grounded theory/qualitative) and their respective applications</p> <p>C. Problem definition and the research proposal</p> <p>D. Research Planning and Design</p> <p>E. Survey research methodology, including pros and cons of surveys</p> <p>F. Experimental research</p> <p>G. Qualitative Exploratory Research e.g. industrial ethnography</p> <p>H. Theory building in ethnographic and other grounded theory approaches</p> <p>I. Measurement concepts in research</p> <p>J. Sampling and fieldwork</p> <p>K. Data analysis</p> <p>L. Data Presentation and Communication of research findings</p> <p>M. Sources of bias in: selection of cases, sampling frames, sample drawing, data collection instruments, data collection activity, data analysis.</p> <p>N. Techniques for reducing research biases</p> <p>O. The research report</p> <p>P. Ethical issues in conducting research.</p>		
Teaching methodology	Face-to-face		
Bibliography	<p>Required Readings: Social Research Methods, Bryman, A., UK: Oxford University Press</p> <p>Recommended Readings: Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches, Creswell, J. W., California: SAGE Survey Methodology, Groves, R. M., Hoboken, New Jersey: Wiley.</p>		

Assessment	Class Participation and Attendance 10% Project 90%
Language	English