

Master's Programme

Master Healthcare Policy, Innovation and Management

Fac. Health, Medicine and Life Sciences

Research Methods

Full course description

The goal of this unit is twofold. First, the unit teaches students how to prepare a good-quality research proposal for the execution of a research project. The preparation of a research proposal is an important first step for developing trustworthy evidence not only for academic purposes but also within health care settings for guiding practices and improving health and quality of life of patients. Second, the unit teaches students how to critically assess the quality of research papers and evidence reported in such papers. This is also an important skill not only in academia but also on the work floor when research evidence needs to be translated into practice.

During lectures, thesis group meetings, workshops and study team assignments, students acquire knowledge of the qualitative and quantitative research methods, which are frequently used in the fields that are covered by the master program. Several elective (non-compulsory) skills trainings are also offered.

Furthermore, the unit prepares the students for the execution of their individual research project at the end of the master program and writing their thesis about that project. Specifically, during the unit, students prepare a research proposal. If possible, this research proposal will be executed during the thesis research project. For the preparation of this proposal, students have selected their own topic in consultation with their thesis supervisor and the placement coordinator, making sure that the chosen topic fits one or more key topics of the master program. These topics also match with the research topics of the CAPHRI Care and Public Health Research Institute. Students can select the theory, design and methods from a range of research approaches.

Course objectives

Knowledge and understanding: Students will acquire knowledge of and insight into:

- Research methodologies and research designs that are common in the fields of the master program.
- Methods for data collection and data analysis that are key in the fields of the master program.
- Reporting research results.

Applying knowledge and understanding: Students will be able to:

- Use knowledge of theories and issues from other units to write a research proposal.
- Select or develop a problem statement, a theoretical framework, the research methodology and research methods for their master thesis research project.

Making judgments:

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- Students develop a scientific attitude.

After having completed this unit, the students are able to:

- Critically assess the applicability, strengths and weaknesses of the research methodologies and methods that are taught and discussed during the unit.
- Form opinions about the proper use of research methods in research articles.

Communication:

- Students are able to communicate effectively by discussing research methods, doing presentations, giving feedback to the work of others, and by writing a research proposal.

Learning skills:

- The students are trained to draw up a research proposal in a collaborative setting.

Recommended reading

[This is the link to Keylinks, our online reference list.](#)

HPI4005

Period 3

8 Jan 2024

2 Feb 2024

[Print course description](#)

ECTS credits:

6.0

Instruction language:

English

Coordinator:

- [R.M.W.A. Drost](#)

Teaching methods:

Assignment(s), Work in subgroups, Lecture(s), Research, Training(s), Paper(s), Presentation(s),

Skills

Assessment methods:

Final paper, Portfolio

Keywords:

research methods, qualitative research, Quantitative research, mixed methods, critical reading,

Writing skills