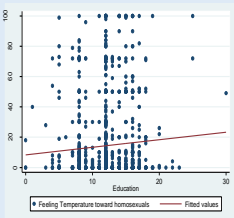
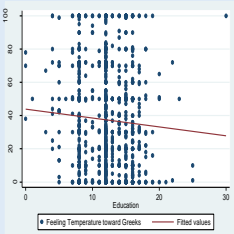
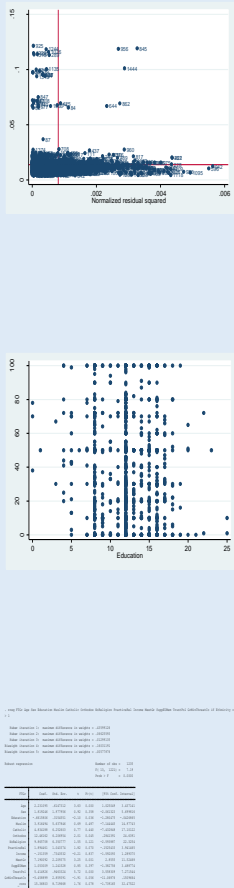
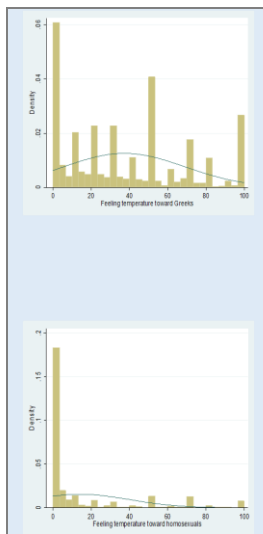


<b>Course</b>	<b>METHODOLOGY OF RESEARCH</b>			
	Type	Semester	ECTS	Code
	Obligatory (O)		5	
<b>Course</b> <b>Course</b> <b>Course tutor</b>	Ridvan Peshkopia, PhD			
<b>Course goals and objectives</b>	<p>The growing importance of research methods in social sciences reflects researchers' efforts to improve the scientific accuracy of their research, and increase sharpness and usefulness of their findings. It is difficult today to find any world prestigious university in the world that offers degrees in political science without at least one methodology course in their curricula. Today, research methods represent important courses for political science programs around the world.</p> <p>There are appropriate several methods to deliver a methodology course in political science. One of those methods treats the subject as simply a researcher design training. Another one emphasizes game theory. Yet another one plunges deep in statistical methods. I follow my own path in delivering this course: a broad view over research design in order to enable students to write meaningful research papers. I will try from the get go I will simplify it in order to evaluate your knowledge about the subject. In the following, I will explain to you the rest of the enigma one lecture at the time in a way that they build upon each other in order to complete the stairway toward fulfilling our goals and objectives.</p> <p>In a narrower perspective, we will follow a behavioural path, that is, explaining individual and group behaviour. The entire course will be a group work in developing research projects. Bearing in mind your limited research experience, I will take over the role of project leader and invite you as my research assistants. I will suggest a research question and will encourage you to find and review literature on that specific subject matter. Then we will construct a theoretical argument such that it could be tested with empirical data collected through public opinion surveys. So, we will need data and we will collect them through field research. Then we will create datasets that would lead toward empirical tests. Our laboratory work would rest on datasets that my students have generated over the years that I have been teaching this course as well as other important datasets from all over the world, the world region where we live and our own country. During this course you will learn not only principles of scientific research in political science but will also begin to produce your own responses for some of the most important research questions about problems facing our society today.</p> <p>Therefore, this course's goals could be comprehended as following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To introduce to the importance of research methods for research in security studies.</li> <li>2. To outlay the basic concepts and principles of research in our discipline.</li> <li>3. To train students for their first steps in scientific research in Security Studies.</li> <li>4. To prepare students for the more advanced course Statistical Methods</li> </ol>			



Country	Year	Feeling Temperature toward Greeks	Feeling Temperature toward homosexuals
Greece	2008	45	15
Greece	2009	48	18
Greece	2010	50	20
Greece	2011	52	22
Greece	2012	55	25
Greece	2013	58	28
Greece	2014	60	30
Greece	2015	62	32
Greece	2016	65	35
Greece	2017	68	38
Greece	2018	70	40
Greece	2019	72	42
Greece	2020	75	45
Greece	2021	78	48
Greece	2022	80	50
Greece	2023	82	52
Greece	2024	85	55
Greece	2025	88	58
Greece	2026	90	60
Greece	2027	92	62
Greece	2028	95	65
Greece	2029	98	68
Greece	2030	100	70

	<p>for security studies.</p> <p>5. Enable students to locate topics and methods for their diploma theses.</p> <p>Prepare for a lot of work; as you will see, differently from most of other courses in our department, in this course you will meet for the first time many new words and concepts. Science might be fun but also vexing, so prepare to start from the very first day. If you find yourself not attending, following up or not catching up with the class, chances are that you will not succeed in this class.</p>								
<p><b>Learning outcomes</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establishing a set of theoretical hypotheses as an educated guess;</li> <li>2. Collecting public opinion data for the purpose of testing those hypotheses;</li> <li>3. Applying statistical analysis on the collected data to test the theoretical hypotheses;</li> <li>4. Prepare a research paper (individual or group work) for conference presentation during the following academic year.</li> </ol>								
<p><b>Content</b></p> 	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="451 730 1339 772">Weekly program</th> <th data-bbox="1339 730 1528 772">Week</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="451 772 1339 1081"> <p>1. <b>THINKING SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY</b> (Libri, f. 1-86)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is research?</li> <li>• Knowledge, theory, paradigms and viewpoints</li> <li>• Nature of data</li> <li>• Research questions, hypotheses and research operational definitions</li> <li>• Research as an ethical and cultural activity</li> </ul> <p>Take your first homework</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1339 772 1528 1081">1, 2, 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="451 1081 1339 1390"> <p>2. <b>PREPARING FOR RESEARCH</b> (Libri, f. 87-178)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning research project</li> <li>• Literature review</li> <li>• Research methods</li> <li>• Selecting the right methods</li> <li>• Selecting the sample</li> <li>• Research proposals</li> </ul> <p>Take your second homework</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1339 1081 1528 1390">4, 5, 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="451 1390 1339 1852"> <p>3. <b>COLLECTING DATA</b> (Libri, f. 179-312)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collecting data</li> <li>• How to collect data</li> <li>• Questionnaires</li> <li>• Semi-structured interviews</li> <li>• Focus groups</li> <li>• Observations</li> <li>• Descriptive data</li> <li>• Documents</li> <li>• Secondary data sources</li> <li>• Collecting data via the Internet</li> </ul> <p>Take your third homework</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1339 1390 1528 1852">7, 8, 9</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Weekly program	Week	<p>1. <b>THINKING SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY</b> (Libri, f. 1-86)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is research?</li> <li>• Knowledge, theory, paradigms and viewpoints</li> <li>• Nature of data</li> <li>• Research questions, hypotheses and research operational definitions</li> <li>• Research as an ethical and cultural activity</li> </ul> <p>Take your first homework</p>	1, 2, 3	<p>2. <b>PREPARING FOR RESEARCH</b> (Libri, f. 87-178)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning research project</li> <li>• Literature review</li> <li>• Research methods</li> <li>• Selecting the right methods</li> <li>• Selecting the sample</li> <li>• Research proposals</li> </ul> <p>Take your second homework</p>	4, 5, 6	<p>3. <b>COLLECTING DATA</b> (Libri, f. 179-312)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collecting data</li> <li>• How to collect data</li> <li>• Questionnaires</li> <li>• Semi-structured interviews</li> <li>• Focus groups</li> <li>• Observations</li> <li>• Descriptive data</li> <li>• Documents</li> <li>• Secondary data sources</li> <li>• Collecting data via the Internet</li> </ul> <p>Take your third homework</p>	7, 8, 9
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#### 4. ANALYZING DATA (Libri, f. 315-428)

10, 11, 12

- Starting the work
- Working with data
- Statistical analysis
- Thematic analysis
- Analysing recounts
- Analysing speeches
- Analysing contents
- Grounded theory
- Applying computer in analysing data
- Then what? Conclusions

Take your fourth homework

First lab class (in classroom and home)

#### PRESENTING AND REPORTING FINDINGS (Libri, f. 431-470)

13, 14, 15

- Rëndësia e audiencës
- Të shkruarit për hulumtimet shkencor: raportet dhe temat e diplomës
- Paraqitja e të dhënave
- Përhapja (publikimi) dhe hulumtimet e mëtejshme

Merrni detyrën e pestë të shtëpisë

Teaching methods	<b>Academic activity</b>		<b>Weight (%)</b>
	1. Lectures and seminars		45%
	2. Lab work		30%
Academic obligations	3. Practicum/fieldwork (optional and outside the academic timeline)		25%
	<b>Academic obligations</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Week</b>
	1. Homework	5	3, 6, 9, 12, 15
2. Fieldwork (alternative a research paper)	1		
3. Lab work	1		
Sources and concretisation tools	<b>Tools</b>		<b>Numri</b>
	1. Classroom (e.g)		1
	2. Computer lab (e.g)		1
	3. Moodle		
	4. Software Stata, R		2
Activity and load	5. Projector		1
	<b>Activity type</b>		<b>Week hours</b>
	1. Lectures and seminars		2
	2. Lab work		
	3. Independent learning		40
4. Homework and classwork		55	
Literature/references	<b>Required readings</b>		
	Bob Matthews dhe Liz Ross. 2010. <i>Metodat e Hulumtimit: Udhëzues praktik për shkencat sociale dhe humane</i>		
	<b>Recommended readings</b>		

	Janet Buttolph Johnson and H. T. Reynolds (with Jason D. Mycoff). 2008. <i>Political Science Research Methods, 6th edition</i> . Washington D.C.: CQ Press
<b>R. Contact</b>	Ridvan Peshkopia: <a href="mailto:ridvan.peshkopia@ubt-uni.net">ridvan.peshkopia@ubt-uni.net</a>
<b>UBT ACADEMIC BEHAVIOR AND STANDARDS</b>	<p>The UBT regulations condemn and punish academic dishonesty. If I catch any student with plagiarism and cheating, the student will fail this class. I do not need excuses and I will not take them.</p> <p>Also, attending this course is mandatory. As you could learn from students of previous generations, if you do not regularly attend this course, you will be asked to attend it the next academic year. If you miss classes more than three times, you need to retake the class. Also, if you come later than halftime through the class, I will not consider you as attending that particular class.</p> <p>You could use light food, snacks and refreshments during my classes. You could keep your cellphones on, but leave them in your pockets or bags. You should not talk/whisper to your fellow students about the goal of Milan last night, the worn-down blue jeans discounts or the Gold AG very last hit. If I catch you distracting my lecture and your fellow students, I will ask you to leave the classroom.</p>
<b>Note</b>	Lecturer may adjust this syllabus in order to better achieve course's objectives. The students and the Department of Security Studies will be timely informed about those changes