

**FACULTY OF SOCIETY AND SCIENCE
STUDY COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Course Title:	Integrated Research methods				
Course code (LAIS):	Mate5002				
Study programme:	Business Environment Administration				
Level of Study programme:	<input type="checkbox"/>	1st level professional higher education			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional Bachelor			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Professional Master			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Academic Master			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	PhD level			
Type of Study programme:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Compulsory course (Part A)			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional specialization courses (Part B, compulsory)			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional specialization optional courses (Part B, optional)			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elective courses (Part C)			
Course Workload:	Credits	ECTS	Academic hours	Contact hours	Independent work hours
	2	3	80	24	56
Course Author/ Tutor:	Sarma Cakula				
	Professor, Ph.D				
	sarma.cakula@va.lv				
	Consultation: according to the schedule for each semester				
Study Form:	Full time studies				
Study year, semester:	1 st study year, 1 st semester				
Language:	English				
Prerequisites for the Course:	Research methodology				
Course Summary:	<p>The aim of the study course is to acquaint students with qualitative and quantitative research in social sciences, research methods, their application, to help students acquire the use of data analysis methods in business environment and administration research. After completing the course, the student will be able to perform and evaluate a qualitative and quantitative research at the master's level, will be able to identify the aspects and perspectives of the social research, research fields and subsectors in business related research, orient in various research methods and their applications, carry out research data processing, data analysis and results preparation.</p>				
Assessment:	<p>Final assessment consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tests - 30 %. • Individual work in practical exercises during the course - 10 %. • Research paper for business environment- 30 %. • Exam – 30% <p>If the student does not fulfill the conditions for obtaining a positive evaluation, the next time the course must be redeployed in full;</p> <p>Participation in the seminar will be evaluated in the 10-point system, taking into account the following criteria:</p> <p>brilliant (10) - knowledge, skills and competence go beyond the requirements of the seminar;</p> <p>Excellent (9) - Knowledge, skills and competence fully meet the requirements of the workshop;</p> <p>Very good (8) - Completely fulfilled requirements of the seminar, however, there are not enough deep awareness on some issues to apply knowledge independently to solve more complex problems;</p> <p>well (7) - the requirements of the seminar are generally met; however, sometimes the inability to use the acquired knowledge independently is detected;</p> <p>Almost well (6) - the requirements of the seminar are fulfilled, but at the same time there is an insufficient understanding of the deep problem and lack of skills to use the acquired knowledge;</p>				

	<p>Mediocre (5) - In general, the requirements of the workshop have been met; however, there is insufficient knowledge of some problems and inability to use the acquired knowledge;</p> <p>almost satisfactory (4) - generally, the requirements of the workshop have been met; however, there is insufficient understanding of some basic concepts; there are significant difficulties in the practical use of the acquired knowledge;</p> <p>weak (3) - knowledge is superficial and incomplete, the student is not able to use it in specific situations;</p> <p>Very weak (2) - there is superficial knowledge only about certain problems, most of the requirements of the seminar have not been learned;</p> <p>very, very weak (1) - there is no understanding of the basic problems of the seminar, there is almost no knowledge of the topics discussed in the seminar.</p> <p>The exam will be evaluated in the 10-point system. The exam will be evaluated as passed if the student answers correctly to 3 expanded questions</p>	
Requirements for Credits:	<p>Practical exercises must be prepared and delivered in determined time.</p> <p>Attendance of practical works is compulsory or individual tasks must be work off.</p> <p>Positive evaluation must be received for in all practical works, control tests, exercises and pre-tests.</p>	
Abiding by the Academic Ethics	<p>Students must abide by the academic and research ethics, Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences Ethics Regulations, incl.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – study papers must be independently developed; – the study work should reference all statements, ideas and data used that have been authored by someone else; – appropriate data acquisition methods should be used in the acquisition of data, the research ethics must be respected, empirical data must be collected independently and cannot be distorted or falsified; – the examination must be carried out by the student independently, without the use of supporting materials and/or consultations with other students, unless the lecturer states otherwise. <p>In the event of non-compliance with the academic and research ethics, punishment is imposed in accordance with the ViA Ethics Regulations and the study course must be re-taken, unless the punishment is extramarital.</p>	
Learning Outcomes; the evaluation methods and criteria	Learning Outcomes	The evaluation methods and criteria
	Knowledge	
	Understanding of qualitative and quantitative research in solving business environment issues.	Visiting and mastering lectures, practical works
	Understanding and application of research methods to achieve the research objectives	Visiting and mastering lectures, practical works
	Understanding of knowledge in relation to course subjects and the ability to show a systematic and critical understanding of the theories considered in the course and their application in practice.	Visiting and mastering lectures, practical works
	Skills	
	Ability to analyze cases and issues related to the main topics of the course.	1 pre-test
Ability to independently obtain, select and analyze information and use it, make decisions and solve the problems of carrying out scientific research in a specific science related to business environment management or interdisciplinary research.	1 test	
Ability to demonstrate understanding of key concepts and regularities in business environment management.	1 pre-test	

Competency	
	<p>Ability to evaluate the impact of your professional activities in the near and far future, the ability to participate in the management of the business environment, demonstrating the awareness of the global visions, decisions, actions and processes of interconnections and interdependencies. Understanding and respect for professional ethics</p> <p>Research paper defense</p>
	<p>Ability to use the acquired theoretical foundations and skills, to carry out professional, innovative and research activities, to formulate and analyze information, problems and solutions in the field of business environment management, to explain and to reasonably discuss with specialists and non-specialists.</p> <p>Research paper defense</p>
	<p>Ability to independently structure your learning and development, push your and your subordinate further learning and personal and professional development, demonstrate a scientific approach to problem solving, take responsibility and initiative by doing work individually, in a team or by managing the work of other people, taking sustainable and socially responsible decisions and finding creative, as far as possible, solutions for all parties involved in a changing or uncertain environment.</p> <p>Research paper defense</p>
Course Compulsory literature:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John W. Creswell. Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches. Sage Publications, 2009, ISBN 978-1-4129-6556-9 2. John W. Creswell. Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches. Sage Publications, 2003 ISBN 0-7619-2442-6, 246p
Course additional literature:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Ievads pētniecībā : stratēģijas, dizaini, metodes / zin. red. Kristīne Mārtinsonē, Anita Pīperē ; red. Rita Cimdiņa Rīga : RaKa, 2011 4. Schwartz B, Wilson J., Goff D., An EasyGuide to Research Design & SPSS (EasyGuide Series) Second Edition, SAGE, 2018
Course confirmation date:	05.09.2018.
Date of course description update:	31.08.2018.

Study Course Plan:

Date	Theme	Academic hours		Study Form/ Organization of independent work of students and task description
		Contact hours	Independent work hours	
<i>The date is specified before the implementation of the course</i>	Classification of branches in science. Qualitative and quantitative research accordingly branches of science. Aspects and perspectives of social research. Qualitative, quantitative research	4	8	Lecture, independent work in studying literature, group work.

	according to the branches of science. Integrated research structures.			
	Sources and perspectives in social research. Collecting data on business, classification of parameters. Empirical data, classification.	2	6	Lecture, independent work in studying literature, group work.
	Questionnaires accordingly type of the research and structure.	2	6	Lecture, independent work in studying literature, practical work.
	Qualitative research methods, types of interview, application ways. Measuring methods. Empirical data in integrated research.	2	4	Lecture, independent work in studying literature, practical work.
	Quantitative research methods. Data statistical analyses, data distributions. Statistical concepts. Level of descriptive and inferential statistics. Confidence intervals. Statistical tests.	6	12	Lecture, independent work in studying literature, practical work.
	Correlation, regression. Multidimensional methods, independent and dependent methods	4	10	Lecture, independent work in studying literature, practical work.
	Evaluation of distribution, using computer programs for data analyses.	2	6	Lecture, independent work in studying literature, practical work.
	Research presentations, research discussions.	2	4	Seminar, presentations.
	Hours total:	24	56	