



RTU Course "Research Methods in Business Informatics"

12307 Sistēmu teorijas un projektēšanas katedra

General data

Code	DSP702
Course title	Research Methods in Business Informatics
Course status in the programme	Compulsory/Courses of Limited Choice
Course level	Post-graduate Studies
Course type	Academic
Field of study	Computer Science
Responsible instructor	Jānis Grundspenķis
Academic staff	Renāte Strazdiņa
Volume of the course: parts and credits points	1 part, 2.0 Credit Points, 3.0 ECTS credits
Language of instruction	LV, EN
Possibility of distance learning	Not planned
Abstract	Modern society is being moved towards a knowledge-based model within which innovative solutions are created that can be applied to enhancing the economy. However, innovative solutions can be created through synthesizing existing knowledge. Scientific methods have been designed and are applied specifically for this purpose, therefore being familiar with such methods should be of benefit to students of business informatics program. The main subject of the course is the introduction to and practical application of scientific methods that can be used in computer science research. Given that some of the students may not be familiar with the concept, the course presents the types of scientific methods and possibilities of application thereof. Quantitative and qualitative scientific methods are considered, the research process and its various steps are analyzed, and the stages of drafting a scientific publication are set out. To ensure a more efficient learning process, theoretical studies are complemented with a realistic research project of a nominal volume; the results of this project shall be presented in a written report. A number of lectures are dedicated to honing technical writing skills that can be applied to drafting course and final papers.
Goals and objectives of the course in terms of competences and skills	Student after finishing the course knows research process, main activities, results, research methods appropriate in Business Informatics research process and research paper development techniques and standards Student can find the most appropriate methods for the particular research and do research according to the generally accepted methods, standards and techniques.
Structure and tasks of independent studies	The assignments are planned as an integral part of the study course. Every theoretical topic has an associated practical exercise that should be performed by student individually.
Recommended literature	Research methods in information / Alison Jane Pickard. London: Facet Publ., 2007. Research methods for business students / Mark Saunders, Philip Lewis, Adrian Thornhill. Harlow, England; New York: Financial Times/Prentice Hall, 2007. Research methodology: a step-by-step guide for beginners / Ranjit Kumar. London; Thousand Oaks; New Delhi: SAGE, 2005.
Course prerequisites	None

Course outline

Theme	Hours
Introduction: research methods basics; Research process	2
Classification of the research methods, quantitative and qualitative research methods	2
Quantitative methods for data acquisition, analysis and processing	4
Qualitative methods for data acquisition, analysis and processing	4
Research methods for system design	8
Results of the research: form, structure and standards	4
The process of the research paper and master thesis development	8

Learning outcomes and assessment

Learning outcomes	Assessment methods
Know – research process, main activities, results.	Successfully developed research plan.
Know – research methods appropriate in Business Informatics research process.	Successfully completed analysis of the research methods applicable in the student's master thesis.
Know – research paper development techniques and standards.	Successfully completed analysis of the research papers.
Can – find the most appropriate methods for the particular research.	Successfully completed exercises.
Can – do research according to the generally accepted methods, standards and techniques.	Successfully completed exercises.

Study subject structure

Part	CP	ECTS	Hours per Week			Tests		
			Lectures	Practical	Lab.	Test	Exam	Work
1.	2.0	3.0	2.0	0.0	0.0		*	