# COURSE DATA

## DATA SUBJECT

**Code:** 33832
**Name:** Open Access to Scientific Documentation
**Cycle:** Undergraduate Studies
**ECTS Credits:** 6
**Academic year:** 2025-26

## STUDY (S)

| Degree | Center | Acad. year | Period |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1007 - Degree in Information and Documentation | Facultat de Geografia i Història | 4 | First quarter |

## SUBJECT-MATTER

| Degree | Subject-matter | Character |
|---|---|---|
| 1007 - Degree in Information and Documentation | Optional subjects | ELECTIVES |

## COORDINATION

GONZALEZ ALCAIDE GREGORIO

# SUMMARY

The course Open Access to Scientific Documentation offers students a description of the foundations, principles, policies, tools and documentary resources associated with the Open Access (OA) movement to scientific literature and the data associated with it, in order to provide them with the knowledge and skills to understand and manage this initiative in the context of the production and dissemination of scientific knowledge as an information professional and as a researcher. Throughout the course, the different models of open access, the institutional policies that underpin this movement and the documentary sources and infrastructures that support it (institutional and thematic repositories and directories of open access journals) will be presented, with a broad vision that will help students to acquire the necessary skills for the promotion of open access and compliance with the legal obligations associated with it, but also a critical view of the phenomena and factors that limit it and even openly question it.

# PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

## RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

The theoretical and practical classes, tracking involves the use and application of a large dose of abstract thinking, and the constant use of sources and documentary resources in electronic format, involving the formation of a critical and elaborated knowledge acquisition.

Nature and type of the information sources. Access and consultation of electronic information sources. Analysis and evaluation of sources. Production, standardization and dissemination of sources.

## COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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Optional subjects deal in greater depth with the competences already covered in compulsory subjects.

## DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

### 1. The process of scientific communication

- Scientific publication: Main documentary typologies and validation of knowledge.

- Ethical, social and economic foundations of the open access movement in the context of scientific communication and publication.

- Predatory journals, paper mills, mega journals, publish or perish, exorbitant APCs (Article Processing Charges) of open access journals and other phenomena of lack of research integrity that threaten the development of science.

### 2. Open access to knowledge

- Historical development and conceptual framework of open access.

- From the first initiatives to the consolidation of open access policies.

- Open access models.

- Main platforms, tools and sources of open access information.

- Role of libraries and information services: copyright, Creative Commons licences, OAI-PMH protocol, metadata and software applications for open access journal management (OJS).

## 3. Open science

- Conceptual framework associated with Open Research Data (ORD).

- Origin and development of open science, policies, ethical and legal aspects and benefits of open access to data.

- FAIR principles.

- Main open data repositories.

## 4. The evaluation of science

- Open access in the context of research evaluation.

- Good practices for the management and visibility of scientific production: self-archiving, metadata and publication dissemination strategies.

- Impact of open access.

## 5. The impact of generative artificial intelligence on scientific communication processes and open access

# WORKLOAD

### PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

| Activity | Hours |
|---|---|
| Theory | 45,00 |
| Computer classroom practice | 15,00 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Total hours** | **60,00** |

## NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

| Activity | Hours |
|---|---|
| Attendance at other activities | 0,00 |
| Individual or group project | 35,00 |
| Independent study and work | 20,00 |
| Preparation of lessons | 4,00 |
| Preparation for assessment activities | 25,00 |
| Resolution of case studies | 6,00 |
| **Total hours** | **90,00** |

# TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The teaching methodology will be based on a theoretical-practical approach, combining the presentation of conceptual content with the development of applied exercises:

- Theoretical classes. Lectures will be used to introduce the fundamental concepts of each of the subjects, encouraging debates and discussion of the key aspects of each subject.

- Case studies. Different exercises and examples related to institutional policies, search and use of repositories, document deposit and identification and evaluation of open access scientific journals.

- Readings and discussions. Throughout the course, different readings and debates will be proposed to provide a critical view of the problems, barriers and limitations in relation to open access.

- Project-based learning. As course work, an applied project will be proposed, for example, designing an open access policy for an institution, analysing a repository, the impact or degree of participation in open access or producing a practical guide for researchers.

# EVALUATION

Following the considerations established in the Syllabus, the evaluation of the subject will be carried out considering the following elements:
- Continuous assessment of the practical activities and work carried out throughout the course. This represents 50% of the grade. It will consist of the resolution and delivery of the case studies, participation in the debates and the completion of the course work.
- Final exam. This accounts for 50% of the grade. It will consist of a written test on the theoretical and practical aspects explained and carried out throughout the course, or the resolution of a practical case study carried out in the computer classroom. It is necessary to obtain at least a 5 out of 10 in the final mark of this exam in order to be able to add the practical marks and pass the course.

All assignments must be done by the students and handed in through the virtual classroom of the course within the established deadlines. The use of generative artificial intelligence tools is only permitted if expressly authorised in the activity statements. In case of doubt, students will be summoned for the presentation and oral defence of the work submitted.

The mark for the continuous practical assessment, in case of not taking the written theoretical-practical test at the first sitting, will be retained for the second. However, none of the practical activities carried out during the course can be re-submitted or carried out for the second assessment period.

This assessment is based on the premise that teaching at the University of Valencia is, by definition, classroom-based teaching. In this sense, students should be aware that attendance at both theory and practical sessions is essential for the proper understanding of the contents. Students must also bear in mind the possibility of part-time enrollments when they are unable to attend all the subjects that make up a complete academic year (60 credits). However, in duly justified circumstances, students may request to be assessed without attending none or some of the lessons. In such cases, the following procedure must be followed:

-At the start of the year, students must inform the course head lecturer(s) of the reason why they are unable to attend class by providing written proof.

-Based on this information, the head lecturer will decide on the possibility of exempting these students from attending all or part of the classes.

To be assessed, students who are in this situation must submit all the assignments required by the lecturer (not necessarily identical to those required during the course). Also, they may be asked to defend their assignments orally in front of the lecturer, and they will have to pass a theory test. Assignments will be worth 50% of the final mark and the test will be worth the remaining 50%.

## REFERENCES

Basic References:

Abadal, E. (2012). Acceso abierto a la ciencia. UOC.

Peset Mancebo, F., & González, L. M. (2017). Ciencia abierta y gestión de datos de investigación (RDM). Trea.

Robinson-García, N., & Jiménez-Contreras, E. (2023). Acceso abierto: utopías, realidades y cuentas pendientes. Anuario ThinkEPI, 17, e17a17. https://doi.orghttps://doi.org/10.3145/thinkepi.2023.e17a17/10.3145/thinkepi.2023.e17a1.

Abadal, E. (2021). Ciencia abierta: un modelo con piezas por encajar. Arbor, 197(799), a588. https://doi.org/10.3989/arbor.2021.799003.

Complementary References:

Suber, P. (2012). Open access. MIT Press.

Valverde Berrocoso, J. (2013). El acceso abierto al conocimiento científico. Publicaciones REUNI+D.