



**COURSE DATA**

**DATA SUBJECT**

**Code:** 44379  
**Name:** Research in social economy  
**Cycle:** Master's Degree / Doctorate  
**ECTS Credits:** 9  
**Academic year:** 2026-27

**STUDY (S)**

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
2204 - Master's Degree in Social Economics (Cooperatives and Non-Profit Organisations)	Facultat d'Economia	1	Second quarter
3116 - PhD Social Economy (Coop. and nonprofit entities)	Escola de Doctorat		Second quarter
3116 - PhD Social Economy (Coop. and nonprofit entities)	Escola de Doctorat		Second quarter

**SUBJECT-MATTER**

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
2204 - Master's Degree in Social Economics (Cooperatives and Non-Profit Organisations)	Research in social economy	ELECTIVES
3116 - PhD Social Economy (Coop. and nonprofit entities)		
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**COORDINATION**

CHAVES AVILA RAFAEL

**SUMMARY**

The scientific field of the social economy, in its broadest sense, is currently well consolidated: it enjoys scientific recognition in international journals, it is structured in national and international scientific networks and has the strategic resources necessary for the normal development of researchers' activity (congresses and conferences, documentation centres, observatories, journals, etc.). It has also achieved a space in postgraduate university studies, in line with the activation of stable groups of teachers and researchers in universities, such as research institutes and centres. All of this is in line with the quantitative and qualitative importance of this social sector in advanced and developing economies and societies, as shown by the 11.5 million jobs in the European social economy (EESC/Monzón and Chaves, 2017, and European Commission, 2024). At the international level, it is institutionalised in international organisations such as the United Nations, ILO, OECD, ECLAC, the Council of the European Union and the European



Commission, which approved a multiannual action plan to promote the social economy in 2021. Spain has a Ministry of Labour and Social Economy.

The Universitat de València, through the team of researchers of the IUDESCOOP Research Institute, is a world reference in the field of research in social economy from multiple disciplines. It encourages interuniversity and international research projects, scientific congresses and conferences, theses and other scientific publications, often in collaboration with the scientific association CIRIEC and with other research centers.

The present subject is of initiation to the investigation in the field of the social economy. Its purpose is double:

First, it aims to provide the student with the tools and methods usually used by social scientists in their research activities. In the first part, called "Skills of the researcher", are addressed epistemological and methodological aspects of research in social sciences as well as the organizational and strategic questions of research (how to develop a project, how to publish the results, how to direct the director of thesis, etc.). In the second part, called "Quantitative research techniques", the student will acquire the main quantitative methodologies of social analysis applicable to the field of social economy research. In the third part, called "Qualitative research techniques", the student will be close to the logic that governs the qualitative research strategy and will know where to deepen the main qualitative research techniques. Finally, in the fourth part, called "Legal Research Techniques", the student will become familiar with the main legal research techniques.

Secondly, it aims to offer the student the main scientific theories, methodological approaches and current research lines on social economy and their internal families (cooperatives, non-profit organizations, social enterprises, etc.) from the different scientific disciplines such as the Economics applies and economic policy, business management, commercial law, labor law and sociology. The student will have a guide to guide him in future research, one of the first will be his doctoral thesis.

## PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

## RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

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

## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

## COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

## DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

- 1.1.- Researcher's skills (R. Chaves)
- 1.2.- Quantitative research techniques (C. Pardo)
- 1.3.- Qualitative research techniques (Fdo. Marhuenda)



## 1. Block 1: Research Methodology in Social Economy

- 1.1.- Researcher's skills (R. Chaves)
- 1.2.- Quantitative research techniques (C. Pardo)
- 1.4.- Research techniques in law (J. Olavarría)

## 2. Block 2. Theories, approaches and lines of research in SOCIAL ECONOMY

- 2.1. Theories and lines of research in Social Economy from applied economics and economic policy (Rafael Chaves Avila and Teresa Savall Morera)
- 2.2. Theories and lines of research in Social Economy from business management (Sunday Ribeiro)
- 2.3. Theories and lines of research in Social Economy from Commercial Law (Maria Jose Vano and Vanessa Marti)
- 2.4. Theories and lines of research in Social Economy from Labor Law (Manuel Alegre)
- 2.5. Theories and lines of research in Social Economy from marketing (Rafael Curras)

### WORKLOAD

#### PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theoretical and practical classes	90,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>90,00</b>

#### NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	40,00
Individual or group project	100,00
Independent study and work	6,00
Preparation of lessons	0,00
Preparation for assessment activities	54,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>200,00</b>

### TEACHING METHODOLOGY

In the first block of the subject, versed on "Research Methodology in Social Economy (ES)", the main elements related to the scientific research process are addressed, in particular, the main tools and methods of social and research analysis are offered .

Its objectives are the following:

- Know and know how to value the scientific process and scientific knowledge
- Know the logic of the research process by assessing the elements that affect and determine it.



- Know the means of publication of the results of scientific research, with special attention to those specialized in the field of ES.
- Recognize and understand the conditions of use of the main quantitative research techniques
- Recognize and understand the conditions of use of the main qualitative research techniques
- Recognize and understand the conditions of use of the main legal research techniques
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In the second block of the subject, on "Theories, approaches and lines of research in Social Economy", the main current scientific theories related to the social economy, related concepts and subfamilies of this social sector from different scientific disciplines are addressed.

The objectives of this block are the following:

- Know and know how to value the different scientific theories about the social economy
- Know the main current research lines on social economy from the perspectives of the different scientific disciplines.

## EVALUATION

The final grade for the subject will be obtained by means of several assessment elements, as indicated in the table below. The preparation and oral presentation of a research project (which will result, preferably, in the TFM or Thesis), partial delivery and final delivery (50% of the final grade) are required. A final report of the course, in the form of a logbook, summarising the knowledge acquired in the different parts of the course, is required (30%). An intermediate and a final report will be handed in. Finally, a final paper is required in the form of a scientific communication in which the knowledge and skills acquired are crystallised (10%). The knowledge and analytical skills that students demonstrate to have acquired when they actively participate in class, in the resolution of the questions or issues raised in the various sessions with the different teachers of the subject will be assessed (continuous assessment, 10%).

**Policy on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI).** A paragraph must be included at the end of any assignment that uses Artificial Intelligence, explaining what it has been used for and what instructions have been applied to obtain the results. Failure to do so would be in breach of the academic honesty policy and would be considered plagiarism. Specifically, according to article 11.g of Law 3/2022, of 24 February, on university coexistence, with regard to ChatGPT, it will be considered a very serious offence to plagiarise totally or partially a work, or to commit academic fraud in the preparation of any work or activity requested of students. Academic fraud will be understood as any premeditated behaviour aimed at falsifying the results of an exam or work, whether one's own or someone else's (including the improper use of artificial intelligence such as ChatGPT), carried out as a requirement for passing a subject or accrediting academic performance. Always bear in mind that AI can suffer from hallucinations. ALWAYS remember to be critical and question answers, both in the context of AI and in real life.

## REFERENCES

Basics:

- Monográfico ¿Estado actual y líneas futuras de investigación en economía social¿, Ciriec-España revista de economía pública, social y cooperativa, nº 114, julio 2024.

(<https://ciriec-revistaeconomia.es/es/inicio/>)



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- CHAVES, R. y MONZÓN, J.L. (2018): *La economía social ante los paradigmas económicos emergentes*, Ciriec-España revista de economía pública, social y cooperativa, 93,  
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- CHAVES,R., FAJARDO,G, MONZÓN,J.L. (dir) (2020): Manual de economía social, Editorial Tirant lo blanc, Valencia, pp. 43-65
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- ILCHEONG,I. (dir) (2020): Encyclopedia of the Social and Solidarity Economy, United Nations UNTFSSSE <https://www.e-elgar.com/textbooks/yi/>

Additional:



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  - GARRICK, J. (1998). *Informal learning in the workplace. Unmasking Human Resource Development*. New York, Routledge.
  - HUNT, S, D. Y VITELL, S. (2006). The General Theory of Marketing Ethics: A Revision and Three Questions. *Journal of Macromarketing*, 2: 2, 143-153.
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