



COURSE DATA

DATA SUBJECT

Code: 46462
Name: Advanced research skills and research ethics
Cycle: Master's Degree
ECTS Credits: 4
Academic year: 2025-26

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
2248 - International Joint Research Master Work and Organizational Psychology	Facultat de Psicologia i Logopèdia	2	First quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
2248 - International Joint Research Master Work and Organizational Psychology	Advanced research skills and research ethics	COMPULSORY

COORDINATION

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SUMMARY

The research of most students involves empirical research with human subjects. As this is highly challenging from an ethical perspective, we will pay attention to this issue more extensively. Legal regulations and ethical codes of research organizations, faculties and universities represent important (and strict) guidelines that researchers should know. Moreover, along their career, researchers deal with ethical principles that put important challenges in their activity. In addition, some recent cases of unethical research practices recommend that students should be aware of the importance of scientific integrity and ethics in research.

The course aims to present some of the main ethical principles and issues to consider when conducting research in the field of Work and Organizational Psychology, to reflect on some good research practices, and to discuss different unethical behaviors that can harm the process of developing and communicating research. The course will pay special attention to several issues that appear in the research process and the submission of manuscripts to journals, the process of publishing, and some ethical conflicts that could appear when applying work and Organizational Psychology to professional practice.



Lectures and classroom activities only cover a part of the course. Students will consider Research Ethics standards and practices when developing his/her Master Thesis, under the supervision of their tutors, along the second semester of the second academic year.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

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

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

No previous requirements.

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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Be able to analyse, evaluate, interpret and synthesize research methods, data, theories and publications in the field of work and organisational psychology.

Be able to communicate effectively in English, both orally (group discussions, presentations) and in writing, on topics related to work and organisational psychology.

Be able to communicate scientific theories and empirical results in an understandable manner, to both professionals (experts and non-experts) and lay audiences (including clients).

Be able to design and conduct quality scientific research in the field of work and organisational psychology (including the abilities to select and apply appropriate research and statistical methods).

Be able to make a critical assessment of a research question and an experimental design, taking into account the ethical responsibilities in research.

Be able to read, understand, integrate and critically reflect on scientific communications, professional reports and new developments.

Be able to reflect on one's own professional behaviour and development (including ethical considerations and obligations).

Be able to relate results to existing literature and to make realistic assessments of the implications and significance of research results.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS



1. Ethical Research

The Research Ethics Committee

Ethical issues:

- Plagiarism.
- Self-plagiarism
- Duplicate publication
- Piecemeal publication
- Multiple uses of the same data

2. Open Research and Publication Ethics

- Good Research practices
- Open science, open research and open data
- Publication Ethics
- Predatory Publishing

3. Ethical Codes on Professional Practice

- Basic concepts: Ethics, Moral, and Deontology.
- Ethical Codes for Psychologists.
- Ethical Dilemmas: Process for Making Ethical Decisions.

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theoretical and practical classes	40,00
Total hours	40,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	60,00
Independent study and work	0,00
Preparation of lessons	0,00



Preparation for assessment activities	0,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	60,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

La metodología de aprendizaje y enseñanza combina presentaciones con actividades de aprendizaje y tareas cortas. Los estudiantes deben leer algunos materiales preliminares, y asistir a tres sesiones presenciales dedicadas a presentar contenidos básicos, desarrollar ejercicios y debates, y discutir sobre los materiales de lectura.

La aplicación práctica de esta materia se lleva a cabo cuando el estudiante desarrolla su tesis de máster durante el cuarto semestre.

EVALUATION

La evaluación se realizará a través de tres actividades de aprendizaje (una por cada sesión), ponderadas como un tercio de la nota final cada una.

REFERENCES

A) Ethical research

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Kirkman, B. L., & Chen, G. (2011). Maximizing your data or data slicing? Recommendations for managing multiple submissions from the same dataset. *Management and Organization Review*, 7(3), 433-446.

B) Open Science

ALLEA (2017). *European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity*. Berlin: All European Academies.

Banks, G.C., Field, J.G., Oswald, F.L., O'Boyle, E.H., Landis, R.S., Rupp, D.E. & Rogelberg, S.G. (2019). Answers to 18 Questions about Open Science practices. *Journal of Business and Psychology*, 34:257-270. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10869-018-9547-8>

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COPE Council (2022). *Ethics Toolkit for successful editorial office. A COPE guide*. Hampshire, UK: Committee of Publication Ethics. <https://doi.org/10.24318/AkFpEBd1>



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Royal Society (2012). *Science as an open enterprise*. The Royal Society Science Policy Centre report 02/12.

Nosek, B.A. et al. (2015). Promoting an open research culture. Author guidelines for journals could help to promote transparency, openness, and reproducibility. *Science* 348 (6242), 1422-1425. DOI: 10.1126/science.aab2374

Science/Business (2022). *What should research assessment reform aim to deliver and how to get there?* Science /Business Special Report, December 2022. Science Business Publishing International SRL.

C) Ethical Codes on Professional Practice

Leach, M. M., & Harbin, J. J. (1997). Psychological ethics codes: A comparison of twenty-four countries. *International Journal of Psychology*, 32(3), 181-192. <https://doi.org/10.1080/002075997400854>.

Lowman, R. L. (Ed.). (2006). *The ethical practice of psychology in organizations* (2nd ed.). American Psychological Association. <https://doi.org/10.1037/11386-000>