Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2018-2019

Personal Paper: Health and Society I (D000163)

Course offerings in academic year 2018-2019

A (semester 2)  Dutch
B (year)

Lecturers in academic year 2018-2019

Willems, Sara  GE21  lecturer-in-charge
Clays, Els  GE12  co-lecturer
De Maesschalck, Stéphanie  GE21  co-lecturer
Vanderhasselt, Marie-Anne  PP05  co-lecturer
Vyncke, Veerle  GE21  co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2018-2019

Bachelor of Science in Medicine  credits  offering

Contact hrs  Study time  90 h  Contact hrs  43.0 h

Teaching languages
Dutch

Keywords
independent work, literature search, health and society

Position of the course
This course forms the first step within the learning process towards the writing of a scientific paper. The course "Personal Work: Biomedical topic" and the Master Thesis build upon certain competences acquired in this course.

The goal of this course is to enable the student to write a scientific paper by means of supervised literature search and independent work.

Contents
One of the following research domains (medical sociology, medical anthropology, Psychology, Environmental Health or Health Promotion) is randomly assigned to every student. Within the scientific domain that is assigned to him/her, the student can freely choose a research question from a given list of possible research questions. If necessary, the student further refines the chosen research question. The student writes a paper in which the research question is answered based on academic literature. The paper has the following structure: introduction, method, results and conclusions.

Initial competences
This course builds upon certain final competences in the courses 'Health and Society I' and 'Information handling'.

Final competences
1. Formulating a clear scientific research question within one of the following research domains: sociology, psychology, health promotion or anthropology.
2. Purposively consulting relevant databases with scientific literature.
3. Selecting relevant research papers to answer the formulated research question.
4. Transparantly reporting the followed search strategy in the consulted databases with scientific literature.
5. Linking and integrating the research findings that are reported in research papers.
6 Critically reflecting upon the methods and results in the selected research papers and the own work (science communication).

7 Independently writing an original paper, using an appropriate and scientific writing style, within a given format and structure.

8 Reporting the answer on the research question in a structured summary (powerpoint).

9 Correctly following given guidelines for referring to literature.

10 Showing scientific integrity.

11 Respecting a given scheme of deadlines and procedures (concerning reference style, lay out, and the procedure to contact supervisors).

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment.

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract.

Teaching methods

Lecture, project

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lectures:
During the lectures, the goals and procedures of the assignment are illustrated, the basic principles in writing a paper are illustrated and possible pitfalls are discussed. The lectures are completed with "responscolleges": lectures in which questions of students (posted on the forum on Minerva) are answered in group.

Project:
For every scientific domain individual feedback sessions are organised by the responsible tutor. During these sessions, the student can obtain guidance in the process of formulating a research question, selecting scientific literature and writing the paper. Based on a task (reporting research question and results in bullet points in a powerpoint presentation) interim feedback is provided.

Learning materials and price

Syllabus/manual: see Minerva
Software: Endnote (see Apollo)
Further details: see Minerva

References

Course content-related study coaching

Chairman of the Line-commission:
Prof. dr. Sara Willems
sara.willems@ugent.be

For each domain a tutor is appointed.
The tutor and the lecturer in charge are available for advice during the feedback sessions (following the the procedure described in the manual and/or on Minerva) and through the Minerva Forum. The lecturer in charge can also be contacted before and after the lectures.

Evaluation methods

continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Assignment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

The assignment consists of two deliverables:
(1) a powerpoint-presentation in which the research question and results are reported in bullet points. Based on this deliverable, interim feedback is provided
(2) a complete research paper

(Approved)
Both deliverables should be handed in timely and in line with the prescribed procedures (o.a. concerning the manner of handing in). The deadline, procedures and required layout are described in the manual/syllabus.

Calculation of the examination mark

For the first part of the assignment (powerpoint with bullet points) a pass/fail score is used.

The total score consists of the score on the final paper.

The criteria used to score both parts of the assignment can be found on Minerva.

To pass this course the student must pass for both parts of the assignment.

When the student passed for the final paper but not for the first part of the assignment, the total score is calculated as follows: (score on the final paper/2) - 1.

Handing in a deliverable that does not deal with a topic within the research domain that was assigned to the student, means that one cannot pass this course.

Handing in a deliverable that contains plagiarism, means that one cannot pass this course.

Not respecting the deadline for handing in one or both of the deliverables, means that one cannot pass this course.

Handing in a deliverable which is not in line with the procedure described in the manual means that one cannot pass this course.

Handing in a deliverable which is not accompanied by the requested appendices means that one cannot pass this course.

When a student does not pass one or both assignments during the first exam period, he/she can continue to work on the assignments from the first exam period or choose to select a new research question.

Facilities for Working Students

No specific facilities.