Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

Research Methods II (F000858)

Course

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2019-2020

A (semester 2) Dutch lecture: plenary exercises 2.5 h
lecture 17.5 h
group work 15.0 h
on-line discussion 5.0 h
group seminar: practical PC room classes 5.0 h
seminar: coached exercises 15.0 h

Offered in the following programmes in 2019-2020

Bachelor of Science in Economics 6 A
Bachelor of Science in Business Economics 6 A
Linking Course Master of Science in Business Economics 6 A
Preparatory Course Master of Science in Business Economics 6 A

Teaching languages
Dutch

Keywords
Research methods applied in business, data collection methods, methods of data analysis

Position of the course
The objective of this course is to obtain insight in various research methods that are applicable to several areas of management (marketing, finance, production, human resources). Students learn to solve problems scientifically.

Contents
These course specifications both hold for students of Business Economics (TEW) and Business Engineering (HIR), and for students who are enrolled in a linking or a preparatory course. Consequently, contact hours and credits may differ from the course specifications provided here. Please consult the programme surveys for the specific number of contact hours and credits that apply to your study programme.

• Validity and reliability
• The research plan
• Secondary sources of information
• Data collection: Observation and interview methods
• Questionnaire design
• Sampling
• Experimental designs and analysis of variance
• Univariate and bivariate statistical techniques
• Multiple regression analysis

(Approved)
• Presenting the results
• Using SPSS

Initial competences
A basic knowledge of the different aspects of management (marketing, finance, production, human resources). A basic knowledge of statistics. Knowledge of Research Methods I (Onderzoeksmethodiek I)

Final competences
1. Evaluate the validity and reliability of existing research.
2. Being able to plan and execute a concrete research project
3. Being able to use the most appropriate research methods for data collection and data analysis
4. Being able to report on own research using the principles of reporting.

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
Group work, lecture, on-line discussion group, lecture: plenary exercises, seminar: coached exercises, seminar: practical PC room classes

Extra information on the teaching methods
• Interactive sessions
• Exercises (in small groups)
• Case (in small groups): executing a real research project, including problem definition, research design, exploratory and conclusive data collection, sampling, questionnaire design, application of univariate and bivariate statistical techniques (hypothesis testing, with SPSS), with group reporting (written)

Learning materials and price
Instructor's notes Cost: 58 EUR

References

Course content-related study coaching
Handbook about the key learning concepts.
Assistant may be consulted about specific problems.
Handouts (power point) are available.
Feedback is available after each team assignment. Each session, typical exam problems will be discussed.

Evaluation methods
end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation
Assignment, peer assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods
Periodic evaluation: written (theory and exercises) about knowledge of basis concepts, and practical application of theory, and interpretation of research results.

Permanent evaluation: evaluation of the group work
a/ powerpoint presentation (= management report/executive summary)
b/ a short technical report

Peer assessment: students evaluate each other's work. Based on this peer assessment the professor is able to recalculate the group results per team member.

(Approved)
Calculation of the examination mark

Permanent: 40% and end-of-term evaluation: 60%. Peer evaluation will be used for the group assignments. The criteria and impact of the peer evaluation will be announced via Ufora.

Students must pass for permanent and end-of-term evaluation to pass this course.

Resit examination period: Retake of the part the student did not pass. The score of the part the student has passed will be transferred to the resit examination period.