GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2020-2021

Research in Moral Science: Introduction (A001468)

Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0 **Study time** 150 h **Contact hrs** 45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021

B (year)	Dutch	Gent	online seminar: practical PC room classes	10.0 h
			online lecture: response lecture	10.0 h
			online seminar: coached exercises	7.5 h
			microteaching	1.25 h
			demonstration	2.5 h
			research project	5.0 h
			seminar: practical PC room classes	5.0 h
			lecture	3.75 h

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

Goethals, Tina	LW01	staff member
Provoost, Veerle	LW01	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021	**crdts**	**offering**
Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences	5	B

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Research in moral science, moral experience, moral judgements, moral attitudes, discourse analysis, Theory of Planned Behaviour, systematic review, research proposal, experiment, attitude scales, survey, questionnaire construction, qualitative research, quantitative research, experiment, focusgroups, interviews, narrative analysis, grounded theory, interpretative phenomenological analysis, SPSS, statistics, data-analysis, thematic analysis

Position of the course

This course introduces students to methods of scientific research in the domain of moral sciences. It also gives them an introduction to the use of the quantitative data-analysis software programs (SPSS).

Contents

Methodology section (7 lessons) :
- Methods for moral judgment research (quantitative research, qualitative research, experiments, focus groups)
- Methods for constructing moral judgment tests, for designing attitude scales;
- Narrative analysis; grounded theory, interpretative phenomenological analysis, Theory of Planned behavior
- Construction of and requirements for (moral scientific) research proposals

SPSS (5 lessons): exercises at using SPSS (in computer class) : univariate and

bivariate descriptive statistics (crosstabs, correlation tabs), linear regression analysis, ANOVA.

Initial competences

- The methodology part (and particularly the construction of the research proposal) builds on the course 'Filosofische vaardigheden en methodiek I (Philosophical skills and methodology I)'. The students are supposed to have acquired the final objectives of this course.
- The SPSS exercises are based on the final objectives of 'Statistics'. The students are required to have succeeded for the exam of this course or to have acquired the final objectives in an alternative way.

Final competences

1 To be familiar with research methods in the field of moral science.
2 To be familiar with (the structure of) reports of empirical studies, published in peer-reviewed journals.
3 To have insight into, and be able to judge moral judgement tests.
4 To be able to choose the right techique to analyse data in SPSS and to interprete the results in a correct and complete way.
5 To be able to choose a suitable research method for a research question in moral science.
6 To be able to formulate a research proposal for an empirical moral study
7 To assess the importance and relevance of empirical research results for ethical-theoretical research.

Conditions for credit contract

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

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Demonstration, lecture, microteaching, seminar: practical PC room classes, research project, online lecture: response lecture, online seminar: coached exercises, online seminar: practical PC room classes

Extra information on the teaching methods

- Lectures (19h)
- Independent work (at home): make a research proposal, making assignments (alone or in group)
- Microteaching (4h): students propose their research proposals to each other, students and teachers give feedback
- Lectures/demonstrations (10h): instructions in using SPSS and guest lecture where a researcher illustrates his/her research experiences
- Seminar computer class (12h) combined with independent work: exercises SPSS

In light of the COVID-19 crisis, most of the above can be offered in online format. There will be ample opportunity for (online) guidance and support, both individual as well as in small groups.

Learning materials and price

Electronic syllabus methodology: English papers and slides. (Electronic) syllabus with instructions and exercises for using SPSS.
Total estimated cost: 15 euro

References

Course content-related study coaching

Individual feedback for exercises, personal contact is possible after making an appointment.

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

Portfolio, participation, assignment, skills test

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Written examination and skills test SPSS in the computer class.
Written examination Methodology
Paper: research proposal (evaluation based on draft and final research proposal) including the presentation for peers (and peer feedback).
A minimum of 50% for each of these parts is necessary to pass.

Calculation of the examination mark

Combination of periodical and non-periodical examination
Non-periodical:
- Preparations and exercises SPSS (20% of total score)
- Research proposal (20% of total score)
- PC-test (20% of total score)

Periodical:
- Written examination methodology (40% of total score)

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance, a task is imposed in substitution; the student will receive obligatory course literature and SPSS exercices.
2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
3. Feedback can be given during an appointment during or after office hours

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy