

## Global Learning Semesters

### Course Syllabus

Course: IREL-561 Research and Methodologies

Department: International Relations

Host Institution: University of Nicosia, Nicosia, Cyprus



Course Summary		
Course Code	Course Title	Recommended Credit Hours
IREL-561	Research and Methodologies	3.7
Semester Offered	Contact Hours	Prerequisites
Fall	42	Graduate Standing
Department	Level of Course	Language of Instruction
International Relations	Upper Division	English

### Course Description

Epistemological Foundations, The Cycle of Scientific Method, Theories and Research Questions, Conceptualization, Hypotheses, Internal Validity & Causality, Operationalization & Levels of Measurement, Measurement Validity and Reliability, Sampling, Survey Research, Ethnographic Methods, Experimental Designs, Comparative/Historical Methods, Content Analysis, Statistical Analysis, Ethics.

### Instructor

Stelios Stylianou, Ph.D.

### Course Aims and Objectives

This course is a graduate level introduction to the logic and methods of social scientific inquiry. It begins with a review of the epistemological foundations of contemporary research and the common process involved in a research project. These processes--formulation of research questions, theoretical framing, conceptualization, operationalization, sampling, measurement, and analysis--are then presented and discussed in detail. The course continues with elaborate presentation of the most common methods of measurement (surveys, ethnographies, experiments, documents research) and the corresponding methods of data analysis (statistical methods, ethnographic methods, comparative-historical analysis, content analysis). By the conclusion of the course, it is expected that students will (a) have acquired knowledge of the fundamental concepts and processes involved in contemporary research, (b) be able to apply the most important principles of study design in their own thinking, and (c) be able to design research projects to empirically investigate questions within their field.

### Teaching Methods

Interactive lectures, lab sessions

### Course Teaching Hours

42 hours. The course is delivered during the Fall semester in 14-weeks (3 hours/week).

## Evaluation and Grading

Term Project (study design):	40%
Written Assignments:	50%
Class Participation:	10%

## Readings and Resources

### Required Textbook

Schutt, Russel K. 2004. Investigating the Social World (4th edition) Thousand Oaks: Pine Forge Press

### Recommended Reading

Various book chapters and journal articles