



## Syllabus

**Term:** 2026/27/1      **Subject name:** Research Methodology      **Subject code:** MNGEO03

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**Unit (Unit code)**      Institute of Geography and Earth Sciences (FOLDRAJZ)

**Lecturer responsible for the course:** Dr. TRÓCSÁNYI András

**Requirement:** Term mark

**Classes per week :** 0/0/2

**Classes per term:**

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### Purpose of education:

Objectives:

1. To provide an understanding of complex, geographical researches
2. To provide skills both for social and natural sciences used in geographical researches
3. To apply new methods in his/her research field

Knowledge:

On successful completion of this course, students are expected *to be able to*

1. develop and complete a thorough research proposal, analyse its structure, and the questions of organisation,
2. view geographic research question in a complex form,
3. to prepare a reference list of relevant publications of a freely chosen field according to the international standards,
4. plan, create and design a scientific poster, and figures and images to present research results
5. analyse maps.

On successful completion of this course, students are expected *to have an understanding of*

1. most important ethic issues in publication
2. the application of fundamental social science research methods in geography

Learning outcomes:

The course will provide students with a strong foundation in

- the conceptualisation and operationalisation of research,
- how to design a research project and practical skills in the utilisation of different research methods.

Students will be familiar with a wide range of research methods and will learn key principles of research



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design. Intellectual and methodological debates will be discussed to assist students to develop informed opinions and a critical appreciation for others' research. Students will be equipped with the knowledge and ability to undertake methodologically sound, original research projects and will develop a set of transferable workplace skills.

### Contents:

1. Getting started in geographical research, how to conduct a literature search
2. Health and safety in the field, ethical practice in geographical research
3. Literature review and research topics, how to conduct a literature search, theories and hypothesis
4. Managing research design, how to write a good research proposal. Structure of thesis work, interpretation of the guidelines
5. Sampling theory and methods in geography
6. Getting information about the past: paleo and historical data sources of climate
7. Time and space, dating techniques and mapping
8. Decision support systems and GIS, geographical approach
9. Visualisation of geographical results, how to design figures and images, making scientific posters
10. Making use of secondary data, conducting questionnaire surveys
11. Semi-structured interviews and focus groups
12. Participant observation, geography and the interpretation of visual imagery
13. Participatory research methods, working in different cultures
14. Internet-mediated research, diaries as a research method

### System of examining and valuation:

Evaluation is based on classwork points (classroom contribution) and home assignment work points. both theory and calculations. Grading percentages may vary according to the position of the Gauss curve, but the approximate ranges are the followings:

just less than 50% = 1

50 to 65% = 2

65 to 75% = 3



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### System of examining and valuation:

75 to 85% = 4

85+% = 5

Attendance at all activities will be monitored. Students who fail to attend the activities, or to complete the summative or formative assessment specified above, will not gain credit for the course.

### Bibliography:

Clifford, N., Cope, M., Gillespie, T., & French, S. (Eds.). (2016). Key methods in geography. Sage.

### Bibliography: