

COURSE SYLLABUS

1. Data about the program

1.1 Higher education institution	Babeş-Bolyai University
1.2 Faculty	Faculty of Geography
1.3 Doctoral school	Geography
1.4 Field of study	Geography
1.5 Study cycle	Doctorate
1.6 Study program / Qualification	Doctoral training / PhD in Geography

2. Course data

2.1 Name of discipline	General methods of research in Geography and the methodology of writing scientific texts						
2.2 Teacher responsible for lectures	PhD. Prof. Danut Petrea						
2.3 Teacher responsible for seminars	PhD. Prof. Adina-Eliza Croitoru						
2.4 Year of study	1	2.5 Semester	2	2.6. Type of evaluation	Exam	2.7 Course framework	C

3. Estimated total time of teaching activities (hours per semester)

3.1 Hours per week	3	Out of which: 3.2 Lectures	2	3.3 Seminars / Laboratory classes	1
3.4 Total hours in the curriculum	36	Out of which: 3.5 Lectures	24	3.6 Seminars / Laboratory classes	12
Allocation of study time:					hours
Study supported by textbooks, other course materials, recommended bibliography and personal student notes					20
Additional learning activities in the library, on specialized online platforms and in the field					50
Preparation of seminars / laboratory classes, topics, papers, portfolios and essays					30
Tutoring					19
Examinations					10
Other activities: -					10
3.7 Individual study (total hours)					139
3.8 Total hours per semester					175
3.9 Number of credits					7

4. Preconditions (where applicable)

4.1 Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not the case
4.2 Competences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assimilation of concepts, categories, laws, theories and basic principles of geography; • The ability to easily operationalize the general research methods; (analysis, synthesis, induction, inference, etc.); • Inclination towards intuitive abstract thinking; • The ability to structure, interpret and shape information; • The existence of skills for easy and efficient communication.

5. Conditions (where applicable)

5.1 Conducting lectures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notebook, videoprojector, Internet connection;
5.2 Conducting seminars / laboratory classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notebook, videoprojector, Internet connection;

6. Specific competences acquired

Professional competences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deepening the fundamental concepts, laws and theories of Geography as a field of knowledge from the perspective of advanced research; The typology of geographical knowledge and the current trends in the field; • Deepening the methodological referential of the field (principles, methods, processes, instruments) and of the methodological strategies specific to the top geographical research in complementarity with the novelties occurred in other scientific fields; • Multiplication of concepts, tools and skills required in analysis, processing and representation of data categories (geographical and non-geographical); Development and cultivation of competences related to the scientific investigation process (curiosity, checking opinions, exploring, formulating multiple hypotheses and scenarios alternatives, optimization of methods, cultivation of novelties, scientific pragmatism, etc.); • Defining the necessary framework for the elaboration, conceptualization, interpretation and dissemination of scientific papers (communication and specialized language); • Acquiring the norms and requirements of the geographical language used in drafting and presenting the research reports designed based on the data obtained through the geographical analysis and the development of the abilities to select and synthesize the specialized literature; • Acquiring the knowledge and competences implied by the conception, structuring and drafting of a large-scale scientific study in full accordance with the requirements of scientific knowledge and the ethical requirements; • Integrated interpretation of the geographical reality by correlating the fundamental knowledge with real facts detected by own research and, by synthesis, extracting the major meanings of the investigated topic from the perspective of the territorial complex's problem; • Knowledge of the specific perspectives of the research that can generate inconsistencies in relation to the professional deontology and the norms of academic ethics.
Transversal competences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquiring the competences of easy and efficient transfer of knowledge from the theory approach to that of the socio-economic pragmatism specific to human communities and their needs; • Using efficient and responsible work strategies based on punctuality, seriousness and personal responsibility, on the principles of norms and values of the code of academic and professional ethics; • Assimilation of techniques and behaviours of efficient work in a multidisciplinary team on various hierarchical levels: ethical attitude towards the group, respect for diversity and multiculturalism, acceptance of diversity of opinion and criticism, assuming the specific role of teamwork, respecting the principles of bioethics, etc.; • Documentation in Romanian language and at least in a language of international circulation, for professional and personal development, through continuous training and efficient adaptation to new openings in scientific terms. • The ability to quickly identify the new challenges, problems and scientific solutions

7. Course objectives (based on the acquired competencies grid)

7.1 The general objective of the course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquiring the conceptual and methodological foundations that define geography as a field of knowledge (concepts, laws and scientific theories, respectively the methodological categories in various research situations);
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7.2 Specific objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assimilation of the main methodological concepts and directions assumed by the design of the geographical research and their relation to the reference scientific background: empiricism, rationalism, positivism, neopositivism (logical positivism), postpositivism, historism (evolutionism), structuralism, poststructuralism, functionalism, systemism, etc.; • Identification of information resources for various categories of scientific issues and ways of exploration for data collection, processing and exploitation; • Knowledge on geography research methodology, its connections with other fields, implicitly from the perspective of ethics in research; • Knowledge on norms, requirements and deficiencies of the geographical language used as a support for drafting and presentation of large-scale scientific works; • Forming an integrated vision regarding the connections between physical and geographical facts with the human ones and their role in the equation of sustainable development of the territory; • Knowledge of the main normative contents and of the national and international legislative provisions regarding the academic integrity, the intellectual property right, the deviations from the academic ethics and of the consequences arising from its non-observance;
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8. Content

8.1 Lectures	Teaching methods	Comments
1. What is science? The nature of science as a phenomenon of knowledge and the defining historical hypostases of science: from historism and logical positivism to neo-positivism and postmodern relativism. Modern science versus postmodern science (where the actual research of the project is placed doctoral ?).	Presentation, discussion, case studies, exercises	4 hours
2. The essence of the content of the doctoral thesis and its fundamental requirements: novelty/choice of the topic, originality, motivation, innovation, scientific emulation, etc.		4 hours
3. Scientific investigation as a complex process: literature review, mapping, statistical, social documentation, etc. versus field and experimental research; data collection, bibliographic approach, bibliographical sheet preparation, types of bibliographic sheets, bibliographic citation, citation ethics, data processing, representation and interpretation of data. Research project: content, stages, means, costs, reliability, etc.		4 hours
4. Project of the doctoral thesis: A. The plan of the thesis - from the "taboo" structure to the successful innovative accumulations. Research methodology: method from generalist intuitionism to concrete procedures. The "architecture" of the research and its edification according to the exigencies of the		4 hours

"scientific method" (the Popperian meaning). Ethics in research.		
5. Writing a doctoral thesis: Communication and scientific language. The style of communication and the exigencies of the scientific language. The rules of citation. Between quote, paraphrase and plagiarism. Editing rules. Footnotes. Structuring the graphic, cartographic fund and the annexed documents.		4 hours
6. International integrity standards for research activity established by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE). The BBU standards on ethics and deontology in the research activity. The concept of authorship (who is the author, establishing the order of authors, false authors, authors omitted). The concept of plagiarism/ self-plagiarism. Use of data and presentation/dissemination of scientific results.		4 hours
8.2 Seminars / laboratory classes	Teaching methods	Comments
Case studies prepared with the doctoral students, based on their individual doctoral research topics	Presentation, discussion, exercises	
1. Elements of Scientometry 1.1. What is scientometry ? 1.2. Indexing of journals in the international databases 1.3. Hierarchy of scientific journals (considering the impact factor, article influence score, quartile, etc.)		2 hours
2. Scientific documentation and resources used for scientific documentation 2.1. Use of the Web of Knowledge platform via the e-nformation interface 2.2. Open-access journals		4 hours
3. Writing a scientific article (week 7-14) 3.1. Definition 3.2. Structure of a scientific article 3.2. Scientific content of a scientific text 3.3. Technical requirements for text-writing scientific (English language, figures, graphs, maps etc.) 3.4. Choosing the magazine and sending an article scientific to a journal		6 hours
Bibliography:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Day R. A. (1989), How to write and publish a scientific paper, Cambridge University Press 2. Umberto Eco (2000) Cum se face o teză de licență. Disciplinele umaniste, Editura Pontica 2000, 205 p. 3. Radulescu Șt. Mihaela (2011) Metodologia Cercetării științifice, Elaborarea lucrărilor de licență, masterat, doctorat, Editura Didactică și Pedagogică, 224 p. 4. 4. Stoica Dan (2002) Curs de metode bibliografice de cercetare, Editura Universității A. I. Cuza Iași, 114 p. 5. 5. Codul Etic și Deontologic privind Cercetarea și Publicațiile Științifice al Cercetătorilor și Cadrelor Didactice din Universitatea Babeș-Bolyai, http://cbs.ot.ubbcluj.ro/files/UBB_Codul%20Etic%20si%20Deontologic.pdf 6. Publicatiile Comitetului pentru Etica in Publicatii (COPE) https://publicationethics.org 		

7. Albert Tim, Wager Elizabeth, 2003, How to handle authorship disputes: a guide for new researchers. <https://publicationethics.org/resources/guidelines-new/how-handle-authorshipdisputesa-guide-new-researchers>
8. Wager Elizabeth, Kleinert Sabine (2010) Responsible research publication: international standards for authors. A position statement developed at the 2nd World Conference on Research Integrity, Singapore, July 22-24, 2010.
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10. Aslam, C., Moraru C.F., Raluca Paraschiv (2018), Curs de deontologie și integritate academică, Universitatea Națională de Arte, București.
11. Beveridge, W.I.B., (1957), The Art of Scientific Investigation, W.W. Norton&Company-Inc. New York.
12. Chelcea, S., (2003), Metodologia elaborării unei lucrări științifice, Ed. Comunicare.ro, București.
13. Day, R. A., (1989), How to write and publish a scientific paper, Cambridge University Press.
14. Donisă, I., (1977), Bazele teoretice și metodologice ale Geografiei, Editura Didactică și Pedagogică, București.
15. Eco, U., (2000), Cum se face o teză de licență. Disciplinele umaniste, Editura Pontica 2000, 205 p.
16. Hart, C. (1998). Doing a Literature Review. Releasing the Social Science Research Imagination. Londra: Sage.
17. Mehedinți, S., (1930), Terra. Introducere în Geografie ca știință, Editura Fundația Națională „S. Ciornei”, București.
18. Mihăilescu, V., (1968), Geografie Teoretică, Editura Academiei Române, București.
19. Papadima L., coordonator, (2018), Deontologie academică. Curriculum cadru, Editura Universității din București.
20. Popper, R., K., (1981), Logica cercetării, Editura. Științ. și Encicl., București.
21. Stoica, D., (2002), Curs de metode bibliografice de cercetare, Editura Universității A. I. Cuza Iași, 114 p.
22. Șercan, Emilia (2017), Deontologie academica. Ghid practic, Editura Universității din București.

9. Aligning the contents of the discipline with the expectations of the epistemic community representatives, professional associations and standard employers operating in the program field

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10. Examination

Activity type	10.1 Evaluation criteria	10.2 Evaluation methods	10.3 Weight in the final grade
10.4 Lectures	Checking the degree of systematization and use of appropriate language and concept	Sequential evaluation during Semester	10%
	Logical coherence	Sequential evaluation during Semester	10%
	Checking the individual progress based on study individual	Exam	30%

10.5 Seminars / laboratory classes	The ability to work with knowledge practised during practical classes	Active participation in seminars and drawing up the drafting of a scientific study according to recommended rules	50 %
	Assessment of knowledge	Written exam	
10.6 Minimum performance standard			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Getting "Good" degree. 			

11. Additional bibliography or recommended as optional reading:

- Bertalanffy, L. von, (1956), General System Theory, General Systems (Yearbook of the Society for the Advancement of General Systems Theory), în General System Theory: Foundations, Development, Applications, ed. Bertalanffy, L. von, (1968), George Braziller, New-York.
- Bunge, M., (1984), Știință și Filosofie, Editura Politică, București.
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- Castree, N., Rogers, A., Sherman, D. (eds.) (2005), Questioning geography: fundamental debates: essays on a contested discipline, Blackwell Publishing Ltd.
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- Goudie, A., (1994), The Human Impact on the Natural Environment, Blackwell, Oxford, Cambridge, U.S.A.
- Gumuchian, H., Marois, C., (2000), Initiation à la recherche en géographie Les Presses de l'Université de Montreal.
- Harvey, D., (1969), Explanation in Geography, Edward Arnold, London.
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- Petrea, D., (2005), Obiect, metodă și cunoaștere geografică, Editura Universității din Oradea.
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- Philips, D., J., (1995), Nonlinear dynamical systems in geomorphology, Geomorphology, 5, Elsevier, Amsterdam.
- Prigogine, I., Isabelle Stengers, (1984) Metamorfoza științei. Noua alianță, Editura Politică, București.
- Prigogine, I., Isabelle Stengers, (1997) Între eternitate și timp, Editura Humanitas, București.
- Popper, R., K., (1998), Mitul contextului. În apărarea științei și a raționalității, Editura Trei.
- Isabelle Stengers, (2001), Inventarea științelor moderne, Editura Polirom, București.
- Șimăndan, D., (2003), Regimurile de adevăr ale trecutului, Editura Universității „Aurel Vlaicu”, Arad.
- Singer, P. (2006), Tratat de Etică, Edit. Polirom, București.
- Socaciu E., Vică C., Mihailov E. (2018), Etică și integritate academică, Editura Universității din București.

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