

**Federal State Autonomous Educational Institution of Higher Education
PEOPLES' FRIENDSHIP UNIVERSITY OF RUSSIA
NAMED AFTER PATRICE LUMUMBA
RUDN University**

Faculty of Philology

educational division (faculty/institute/academy)

Mass Communication Department

department

COURSE SYLLABUS

Methodology of Scientific Research

(course title)

Recommended by the Didactic Council for the Education Field of:

5.9.9. Media communications and Journalism

(field of studies / specialty code and title)

The course instruction is implemented within the PhD Programme:

International Journalism

(program profile/specialisation title)

1. DISCIPLINE (MODULE) GOAL

The main goal of studying the discipline ‘Methodology of Scientific Research’ is to form an in-depth view of the basic methods of theoretical research, issues of modeling in scientific research, which allows the choice of direction of scientific research. While studying the course specialists learn how to search, accumulate and process scientific information, as well as to process and design scientific research.

2. REQUIREMENTS FOR LEARNING OUTCOMES

As a result of studying the discipline ‘Methodology of Scientific Research’, the student must: **Know:** the main provisions of the theory of knowledge; methods of empirical level of research; methods of theoretical level of research; the main stages of scientific research; measuring instruments and their characteristics; basic concepts and definitions of the theory of error.

Be capable to: design the results of information retrieval and scientific research; correctly select the means of measuring physical parameters; competently organize the experiments and obtaining results; take into account the measurement errors; competently process and summarize the results of experiments.

Master: skills of independent work with literature to find information about individual definitions, concepts and terms, explaining their application in practical situations; solving theoretical and practical typical and systemic problems related to professional activities; logical creative and systemic thinking.

3. WORLOAD OF THE DISCIPLINE AND TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

The overall workload of the discipline ‘Methodology of Scientific Research’ is **1** credit (36 academic hours). 1 credit unit is previewed for midterm attestation.

Table 3.1. Types of educational activities by periods of mastering the postgraduate program

Types of activities	Total hrs.	Semesters			
		1	2	3	4
Classroom activities (total), including:	18				
<i>Lectures (LC)</i>	10	10			
<i>Laboratory activities (LA)</i>					
<i>Practical lessons/Seminars (PC)</i>	8	8			
Independent work (total)	18	18			
Overall workload hours	1	36			
Credits	36				

4. DISCIPLINE CONTENTS

Table 4.1. Content of the units of the discipline

Discipline Unit	Content of the units(topics)	Types of Educational Activities
Unit 1. Basic concepts of scientific research. Scientific research and scientific information	Topic 1.1. Definition of the basic concepts of scientific knowledge (problem, hypothesis, theory, etc.). Definition of the concepts of methodology, method, methodology. Types of methods and methodologies.	PL

Unit 2. Methodology of scientific research	Topic 2.1. Scientific research in journalism: content of research, area of research, nature, purpose, subject. Objects and subjects of research.	PL
Unit 3. Formulating hypotheses and constructing theories	Topic 3.1. Requirements for the scientific position of the thesis. Methods for proving the validity of scientific statements of conclusions, and recommendations: analytical, experimental, and validated.	PL
Unit 4. Sampling procedures	Topic 4.1. The method of sample construction. Importance of sampling in research, parameters for calculating the sampling frame.	PL
Unit 5. Methods of scientific research	Topic 5.1. Empirical, theoretical, and general logical methods. Quantitative and qualitative research methods. How to choose a research method. Special methods of scientific research in journalism and the media. Their role and place in scientific research in journalism and the media. Pros and cons: content analysis, questionnaire surveys, focus groups.	PL
Unit 6. Data collection. Variables and methods	Topic 6.1. Types of data in research on journalism and media, dependent and independent variables. Data sources. Finding sources offline and online. content analysis, questionnaire survey, focus groups.	PL
Unit 7. Data analysis and processing methods	Topic 7.1. The process of data analysis. Types of data in research. Confirmation of the validity of information about the subject under study. Verification methods: comparative, data inquiry.	PL
Unit 8. Basics of scientific work and registration of the results of scientific activity. Fundamentals of scientific research	Topic 8.1. Types of scientific research by subject, source of funding and duration. Basic and applied research. Candidate's dissertation. Writing methodology, the order of defense.	PL

5. DISCIPLINE EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS

Table 5.1. Material and technical support of the discipline

Room Type	Room Equipment	Specialized educational / laboratory equipment, software and materials for mastering the discipline (if necessary)
Lecture Class	Room for lecture-type classes, equipped with a set of specialized furniture, board (screen) and technical / multimedia gadgets.	_____
Class for Seminars	Room for seminar-type classes, equipped with a set of specialized furniture, board (screen) and technical / multimedia gadgets.	_____
Computer Class	Computer class, equipped with a set of specialized furniture, board (screen) and technical / multimedia gadgets.	_____
Self-Work Class	Room for self-working (can be used for lecture and seminars activities), equipped with a set of specialized furniture, board (screen) and technical / multimedia gadgets and computers with an access to EIPES.	_____

6. METHODOLOGICAL SUPPORT AND LEARNING MATERIALS

Main readings:

1. Artemov, V. L.: Problems of Teaching Journalism in Modern Russia. Scientific Works of Moscow Humanitarian University, 1, 2016. 55-63 pp.
2. Bykov, A. Yu.: Problems of Methodology of Research on Journalism in Russia. In S. G. Korkonosenko (Ed.), *Methods of Understanding in Journalism and Mass Communications*. Saint Petersburg: Svoe Izdatelstvo, 2015. 28-43 pp.
3. Dunas, D. V.: Mapping Mass Communication Theories in Contemporary Russia. In E. L. Vartanova (Ed.), *World of Media. Yearbook of Russian Media and Journalism Studies*. Moscow: Faculty of Journalism of Lomonosov Moscow State University; MediaMir, 2013. 88-107 pp.
4. Erjavec, K., Zajc, J.: A Historical Overview of Approaches to Journalism Studies. *Medijska istrazivanja*, 17(1), 2011. 9-29 pp.
5. Esin, B. I.: *History of Russian Journalism (1703-1917)*. Moscow: Nauka, 2000.
6. Goodman, R. S., Steyn, E. (Eds.): *Global Journalism Education in the 21st Century: Challenges and Innovations*. Austin: Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas, University of Texas at Austin, 2017.
7. Hanitzsch, Th.: Journalism Studies Still Needs to Fix Western Bias. *Journalism*, 20(1), 2019. 214-217 pp.
8. Hannah, M.: Democratizing & Debasing. *Journalism Studies*, 20(5), 2019. 735-748 pp.
9. Hannah, M.: Media Transformation and Political Marketing in the Post-Communist World. *International Journal of Communication*, 7, 2013. 646-652 pp.
10. Jirak, J., Kopplova, B.: Two Decades of Free Media in the Czech Republic: So, What? Remarks on the Discourse of Post-1989 Media Transformation. In P. Gross, K. Jakubowicz (Eds.), *Media Transformations in the Post-Communist World*. Lanham: Lexington Books, 2012. 183-194 pp.
11. Karlsson, M., Sjovaag, H. (Eds.): *Rethinking Research Methods in an Age of Digital Journalism*. London: Routledge, 2017.
12. Khubetsova, Z. F.: Russian Scientific and Educational Schools of Journalism as Part of the World Scientific and Educational Process. *Bulletin of Saint Petersburg University. Language and Literature*, 15(2), 2018. 312-326 pp.
13. Korkonosenko, S. G., Berezhnaia, M. A., Khubetsova, Z. F.: Russian Scientific and Educational Journalism Schools: Leadership in Polycentric Paradigm. In W. Strielkowski, & O. Chigisheva (Eds.), *Leadership for the Future Sustainable Development of Business and Education*. Cham: Springer, 2018. 131-138 pp.
14. Loffelholz, M., Weaver, D. (Eds.): *Global Journalism Research: Theories, Methods, Findings, Future*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2008.
15. Machado, E.: From Journalism Studies to Journalism Theories. Three Assumptions to Consolidate Journalism as a Field of Knowledge. *Brazilian Journalism Research*, 1(1), semester 1, 2005. 11-23 pp.
16. Mannheim, J. B., Rich, R. C.: *Empirical Political Analysis: Research Methods in Political Science*. White Plains, N.Y.: Longman, 1995.
17. Oller Alonso, M., Barredo, D.: Intermediate Journalistic Cultures. *International Comparative Studies in Journalism. Medijska Istrazivanja*, 19(1), 2013. 39-60 pp.
18. Prokhorov E. P.: *Exploring Journalism: Theoretical Basis, Methodology, Methods, Working Technique of a Media Researcher*. Moscow: RIP-holding, 2005.
19. Russial, J., Laufer, P., Wasko, J.: Journalism in Crisis Javnost – The Public, 22(4), 2015. 299-312 pp.
20. Steensen, S., Ahva, L.: Theories of Journalism in a Digital Age. *Journalism Practice*, 9(1), 2015. 1-18 pp.
21. Thussu, D. K. (Ed.): *Internationalizing Media Studies*. London; New York: Routledge, 2009.
22. Toepfl, F.: Why do Pluralist Media Systems Emerge Comparing Media Change in the Czech Republic and in Russia After the Collapse of Communism. *Global Media and Communication*, 9(3), 2013. 239-256 pp.

Additional readings:

1. Altschull, J. H. (1990). *From Milton to McLuhan: The ideas behind American journalism*. White Plains, NJ: Longman.
2. Bentham, J. (1825). *Judicial evidence*.
3. Breen, M. (Ed.). (1998). *Journalism theory and practice*. Paddington, NSW: Macleay Press.
4. Brucker, H. (1973). *Communication is power: Unchanging values in a changing journalism*. New York: Oxford University Press.
5. Clark, S., & Herr, M. (1986). *Planning legal research*. Melbourne: The Victoria Law Foundation.
6. de Burgh, H. (Ed.) (2000). *Investigative journalism: Context and practice*. London & New York: Routledge (Taylor and Francis Group).
7. DeFleur, M. (1997). *Computer-assisted investigative reporting: Development and methodology*. New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates Inc.
8. Ericson, R. V. (1996). *Why law is like news*. In D. Nelken (Ed.), *Law as communication*. Aldershot: Dartmouth Publishing Co Ltd.
9. Granato, L. (1998). *Interpretive journalism and research*. In *Research into Australian journalism, study guide*. Geelong: Deakin University, Faculty of Arts.
10. Hartley, J. (1995). *Journalism and modernity*. *Australian Journal of Communication*, 22(2), 20-30.
11. Herbert, I. (1997). *Journalism education at the tertiary level*. *Australian Journalism Review*, 19(1), 7-18.

Internet sources:

1. RUDN University Databases and other resources which are available for an access due to the signed contracts:

- ЭБС РУДН <http://lib.rudn.ru/MegaPro/Web>
- ЭБС «University library online» <http://www.biblioclub.ru>
- ЭБС «Консультант студента» www.studentlibrary.ru
- ЭБС «Лань» <http://e.lanbook.com/>
- ЭБС «Троицкий мост»

Databases and Search Engines:

- <http://www.rad.pfu.edu.ru/>
- www.libfl.ru
- www.portalus.ru
- www.project.phil.pu.ru
- www.lib.fl.ru
- www.gutenberg.net
- www.ipl.org
- www.theeuropeanlibrary.org;
- www.epoch-net.org
- http://gabro.ge/biblio/0707/3066/filosof.historic.ru/books/item/f00/s00/z0_0358/st000/htm/
- <http://www.philosophy.ru/library/witt/01/01.html/>


Educational and methodological materials for students' self-work studying the discipline / module *:

* - all educational and methodological materials for independent work of students are available in accordance with the current procedure on the page of the discipline in TUIS.


7. ASSESSMENT TOOLKIT AND GRADING SYSTEM FOR MIDTERM ATTESTATION OF PHD STUDENTS ON THE DISCIPLINE (MODULE)

Assessment toolkit and a grading system for assessing the discipline are presented to the Appendix to the current Program of the discipline.

DEVELOPER:

<u>Associate Professor, Department of Mass Communication</u> Position/Department		<u>Elena A. Ivanova</u> Full name
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Head of the Department

<u>Mass Communication Department</u> Name of the Department		<u>Victor V. Barabash</u> Full name
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