

Course Unit Descriptor

Study Programme: Information Technologies – Master			
Course Unit Title: Research Methods			
Course Unit Code: IT501			
Name of Lecturer(s): Zoran Budimac			
Type and Level of Studies: Master Academic Degree			
Course Status (compulsory/elective): Compulsory			
Semester (winter/summer): Winter			
Language of instruction: Serbian (primary), English (secondary)			
Mode of course unit delivery (face-to-face/distance learning): Face-to-face			
Number of ECTS Allocated: 7			
Prerequisites: None			
Course Aims: Presentation and development of concepts, organizational structure, and deliverables of research project using qualitative and quantitative methods. The high level of understanding and appreciation of different ways of organization, planning, implementation and guiding technical projects.			
Learning Outcomes: <i>Minimum:</i> It is expected that every student is able to communicate and formulate problems in the framework of a research project, ability to prepare, plan and follow a technical research project, as well as to know tools and possess skills for critical evaluation and analysis of projects. <i>Desirable:</i> It is expected that a successful student will be able to choose and assess adequate research methods while collecting data. The student is also expected to demonstrate knowledge and experience in approaches and methods for structuring, collecting and processing of information in technological development.			
Syllabus: <i>Theory</i> Theoretical approaches to project and its management, quality management, communication skills, presenting skills, literature survey and review, patent survey, writing of technical reports and papers. Theoretical basics of research methods, problem analysis and techniques for solutions, structuring methods, qualitative methods for system analysis, process and performance assessment. Quantitative methods for collection and analysis of data, experimental design and data collection, performance analysis, deviation analysis. Plagiarism, references, health and security aspects of research. <i>Practice</i> Rehearsal of covered skills and methods on case studies using some of the software tools for project management.			
Required Reading: 1. CLELAND & KING Project management handbook 2nd edition, van Nostrand Reinhold. 2. LAMERS & ARNOLD, Report writing for science, technology and management, Wageningen Agricultural University, 1990. 3. MONTGOMERY DOUGLAS C, introduction to statistical quality control 2nd edition, John Wiley and Sons. 4. STRAKER DAVID, A toolbox for quality improvement and problem solving, Prentice Hall, 1995			
Weekly Contact Hours: 4	Lectures: 2	Practical work: 2	
Teaching Methods: Lectures are organized using classical methods and overhead projector. During exercises, case studies are analyzed and certain skills and methods are rehearsed. Students upgrade their knowledge by researching some of the offered topics and write seminar papers that will be presented at the end of the course.			
Knowledge Assessment (maximum of 100 points):			
Pre-exam obligations	Points 60	Final exam	Points 40
Active class		written exam	

participation			
Practical work		oral exam	
Preliminary exam(s)		
Seminar(s)			
<p>The methods of knowledge assessment may differ; the table presents only some of the options: written exam, oral exam, project presentation, seminars, etc.</p>			