

THE INSTITUTE OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL STUDIES

LONDON

Directed Research and Methodology

Course Description

This course investigates the methodology required for researching and writing an academic research project and will seek to explore, define and apply a wide range of research methods and techniques including the hypothesis, the research questions, a review of the relevant literature and the research methodology.

Guidance will also be given to each student by the INSTEP faculty member on producing an abstract for the proposed research project and then with the focus and progress of the required research

Students should propose a topic for their research project from the following areas and must also take the relevant course from the list below:

Core courses:

1. Directed Research and Methodology

and

2. One of the following courses:

Contemporary Britain

Law and Society

Applied International Business

Media, Society and Contemporary Culture

Syllabus

Seminars

Week 1 Introduction to the course

Week 2, Week 3, Week 4, Week 5 & Week 6

Seminars covering the following (t.b.c by the Faculty member):

- Overview of the components of the Methodology for Directed Field Research
- Title, Background & Justification
- Hypothesis, Research Questions and Objectives
- Review of the Literature, Methods and Proposed Outcome
- Population Targets, Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis, Data Management
- Analysis and Interpretation

Week 7, Week 8, Week 9, Week 10 & Week 11

- During the second part of the course the student will be expected to carry out the research for their project.

Seminars will therefore cover the following:

- The INSTEP Faculty member will expect each student to present a weekly summary of the progress of their research during the previous week.
- Group discussions will be led by the INSTEP faculty member/project supervisor on the progress of the each student's research during the previous week to avail the students the opportunity to jointly discuss their outcomes in class.
- Each student will also have the opportunity to discuss with the INSTEP faculty member the future research required.

Week 12 Submission of Final Project

Reading List

T.B.C. by INSTEP faculty member

Method of Assessment

To be submitted at the end of week 6:

An Essay on an aspect of the topics covered in the first part of the course of about 2500 words and a one page Abstract outlining the individual research topic

To be submitted at the end of week 12:

The Individual Directed Research Project of about 2,500 words.

Credits

Students should select the following:

The first core course	3 credits
A second core course in the area of their research interests.	3 credits
Three others course carrying 3 credits each	9 credits

Total 15 credit hours