

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Study programme information

1.1 Higher education institution	Universitatea de Vest din Timișoara
1.2 Faculty / Department	Chimie, Biologie, Geografie / Departamentul de Geografie
1.3 Sub-department	Geografie
1.4 Field of study	Geography
1.5 Level of study	Master's degree
1.6 Study programme / Qualification	Geographic Information Systems

2. Course information

2.1 Course title	Research and project supervision						
2.2 Course convenor/ Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Habil. Lucian DRĂGUȚ						
2.3 Teaching assistant	Prof. Dr. Habil. Lucian DRĂGUȚ						
2.4 Year of study	1	2.5 Semester	1	2.6 Type of assessment	E	2.7 Course type	DS/DA

3. Total estimated time (hours of didactic activities per semester)

3.1 Number of hours per week	2	of which: 3.2 lecture		3.3 seminar/laboratory	2
3.4 Total hours in the curriculum	28	of which: 3.5 lecture		3.6 seminar/laboratory	28
Time distribution:					hours
Studying textbooks, course materials, articles, bibliography					
Further research in libraries, electronic platforms, and in the field					10
Preparing homework, thesis structure, bibliography, spatial data processing, research papers					60
Tutoring					20
Examinations					7
Other activities					
3.7 Total hours of individual study	97				
3.8 Total hours per semester	125				
3.9 Number of credits	5				

4. Prerequisites (if applicable)

4.1 based on curriculum	Knowledge acquired in the specialized and optional disciplines related to the master program.
4.2 based on competencies	

5. Conditions (if applicable)

5.1 for the course	
5.2 for the seminar/laboratory	According to the curriculum, the course involves meetings between the master students and the supervisor of the master's thesis. Also, for a few meetings, research seminars are organized to deepen the norms of writing the dissertation.

6. Objectives of the discipline - expected learning outcomes to the formation of which contribute to the completion and promotion of the discipline

Knowledge	• Knowledge of the topic chosen for the dissertation. • Ability to properly use the concepts, methods, and techniques specific to the field studied. • Collect, analyze (critically), and interpret the data needed for the chosen topic. • Synthesize known information related to the dissertation topic. • Demonstrate the ability to argue divergent positions without simply reproducing field-specific knowledge. • Knowledge of the structure of the dissertation. • Knowledge and correct writing of bibliographic references. • Ability to use the recommended bibliography and to search for other bibliographic sources.
Skills	• Correct use and writing of bibliographic references in a database. • Apply proper methods for the spatial databases. • Apply skills related to preprocessing and analysis of remotely sensed data • Good skills in spatial analysis and modelling applied to the topic of the thesis
Responsibility and autonomy	• The application of effective and responsible work strategies, based on the principles, norms, and values of the code of professional ethics. • Application of effective work techniques in a multidisciplinary team, ethical attitude, respect for diversity and multiculturalism, acceptance of diversity of opinion • Responsible execution of professional tasks, in conditions of restricted autonomy and qualified assistance

7. Content

7.1 Seminar / Laboratory	Teaching methods	Observations
Defining a research question/ theme/ topic. Forming a hypothesis and an outline for selected topics	Presentation, scientific explanation, conversation, individual work with references and spatial databases.	2 hours
Structure and discussion of the research plan: title of the paper, structure, and preliminary bibliography as a result of the study of the state of the art in the field of the dissertation topic.		2 hours
Theoretical and methodological aspects specific to each topic approached in the proposed paper		2 hours
Preparation of the relevant key literature review based on the specialized academic sources recommended by the scientific advisor and the sources considered appropriate by the student		2 hours
Elaboration of the research methodology to achieve the proposed objectives		2 hours
Elaboration of the practical part of the research: data collection and analysis		2 hours
Individual work on the case study for the dissertation.		2 hours
Spatial analysis and modeling applied to the dissertation topic		4 hours
Evaluation on the progress of the dissertation chapters. Discussions on how to draw conclusions and proposals.		2 hours
Completion of the dissertation		2 hours
Preparation of the presentation for the public defense of the dissertation		2 hours

Presentation of the research results/defense of the dissertation.		2 hours
Bibliography - In addition to the bibliography recommended by the scientific supervisor or the one considered relevant by the master student, depending on the chosen research topic, the student must also consider the literature that is a guide on how to develop and present a scientific paper: - Hengl, T.; Gould, M. The unofficial guide for authors. 2006. - Hengl, T. and Gould, M., 2002. Rules of thumb for writing research articles, https://webapps.itc.utwente.nl/librarywww/papers/hengl_rules.pdf - Eco, Umberto, Cum se face o teză de licență. Științele umaniste, Polirom, Iași, 2006 - Additional references and course presentations are posted on E-learning UVT Platform (https://elearning.e-uvt.ro/)		

8. Corroborating course content with the expectations held by the representatives of the epistemic community, professional associations and typical employers in the field of the study programme.

The content of the discipline provides the methodological guide for students to prepare and defend a dissertation. In perspective, it is the starting point for those who want to get involved in doctoral studies / advanced scientific research, also providing skills necessary for the employment of graduates in the public and private internal and external environment.

9. Assessment

Type of activity	9.1 Assessment criteria	9.2 Assessment methods	9.3 Weight in the final mark
9.5 Seminar / laboratory	Progress evaluation	Research seminar1	33%
	Progress evaluation	Research seminar2	33%
	Progress evaluation	Exam	33%
9.6 Minimum performance standard			
At least 50 % of the MSc Thesis ready. Clear main purpose, objectives, and research questions, as well as hypotheses if applicable. The theoretical concepts are presented based on the correctly cited specialized literature. The collection, analysis, and interpretation of empirical data were performed using a correct and appropriate methodology.			

Date

12.09.2025

Course convenor's signature

Date of approval in the department

Head of department's signature