

General information	Name of course, its code, and number of credits		ECON 960 Research Methods, 3 credits	
	Department		Economics and Management	
	Program (Bachelor, Master)		MBA	
	Semester		Fall 2022	
	Instructor		Elshad Mikayilov	
	Email		elshad.mikayilov@khazar.org	
	Classroom/Hours		Bashir Safaroglu 122, Room	
Language	English			
Type of course (compulsory, elective)	Compulsory			
Textbooks/Additional Literature	Saunders, M., Lewis, P. & Thornhill, A. (2020). <i>Research methods for business students</i> (8 th ed.). Harlow: Pearson Additional readings will be assigned in class.			
Course outline	A foundations course on quantitative and qualitative research methodology and design principles. The course studies research methodologies with applications to specific problems. All students submit research proposals based on their topics of interest			
Course objectives	The course aims at 1) developing student’s ability to plan, conduct and report scientific research. 2) evaluating and using scientific research			
Learning Outcomes	At the end of the course, the students will be able to: understand the purpose of research; design and conduct research using a variety of methods; identify and understand potential ethical problems during research process and ways to overcome them; critically evaluate the quality of other people’s research findings			
Instructional Methods	Lecture	X		
	Group Discussion	X		
	Practical Assignments	X		
	Others	X		
Assessment	Components	Date/Deadline	Percentage (%)	
	Midterm examination		30	
	Activity		5	
	Assignments and Tests		10	
	Research proposal presentation		15	
	Final examination		40	
	Final Grade		100	
Policy	<p>Activity Because of the once-a-week course format, students are expected to attend all sessions. If you have an absence, take responsibility for making up assignments and for obtaining missed lecture information.</p> <p>Participation is important for doing well in the course. You’ll be graded for your active engagement with the material and your peers.</p> <p>The activity and participation will account for 10 % of the total course grade.</p> <p>Class preparation. Students are responsible for: 1) reading the assigned materials; 2) taking the initiative to ask questions that promote understanding of the academic subject; 3) communicating regularly with the instructor, especially in matters related to class assignments.</p> <p>Homework/Research proposal presentation. The structure and format of the homework may include multiple choice and open-ended questions. Homework will account for 5 % of the total course grade.</p> <p>Proposal presentation and discussion will be conducted by each student. The proposal</p>			

		presentation includes the following: title, introduction, literature review, methodology, and proposed data analysis. Proposal presentation will constitute 15 % of the final grade. Cheating/plagiarism. Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. Breaches of the academic integrity will lead to assignment cancellation. When in doubt about plagiarism or any other form of cheating, consult the course instructor.	
Schedule (Tentative)			
Week	Date (planned)	Topics	Textbook/Assignments
1.		Course overview &orientation The nature of research The research process	Saunders et al., Chapter 1
2.		Formulating and clarifying research topic Attributes of a good research topic Generating research ideas/turning them into projects Writing your research proposal	Saunders et al., Chapter 2
3.		Reviewing the literature Literature sources Planning/conducting your literature search Obtaining, evaluating and recording literature	Saunders et al., Chapter 3
4.		Reviewing the literature (contd.) Plagiarism Research philosophies and approaches Understanding your research philosophy	Saunders et al., Chapter 3 &4
5.		The research design The purpose of your research Multiple methods choices The credibility of your research findings The ethics of your research	Saunders et al., Chapter 5
6.		Access and research ethics Issues associated with gaining access and strategies to gain access Research ethics Ethical issues at different stages of research	Saunders et al., Chapter 6
7.		Sampling Probability and non-probability sampling.	Saunders et al., Chapter 7
8.		Midterm examination. Secondary data Types of data/locating data/evaluating secondary data Advantages and disadvantages of secondary data	Saunders et al., Chapter 8
9.		Collecting primary data Participant observation Structured observation Interviews	Saunders et al., Chapter 9&10
10.		Collecting primary data (contd.) Interviews (contd.) Questionnaires	Saunders et al., Chapter 10&11
11.		Analyzing quantitative data Preparing, inputting, checking, exploring and presenting data Describing data using statistics	Saunders et al., Chapter 12

12.		Analyzing quantitative data(contd.) Examining relationships, differences and trends using statistics	Saunders et al., Chapter 12
13.		Analyzing qualitative data Quantitative vs. qualitative data analysis Approaches to qualitative analysis Types of qualitative analysis processes Analytical aids.	Saunders et al., Chapter 13
14.		Writing your research report Structuring/organizaing your report Developing an appropriate writing style.	Saunders et al., Chapter 14
15.		Writing your research report(contd.) Meeting the assessment criteria Oral presentation of the report. Research proposal presentations	Saunders et al., Chapter 14
		Final examination	