COURSE OUTLINE

- **GENERAL**

SCHOOL	School of Social Sciences		
DEPARTMENT	Sociology		
LEVEL OF STUDIES	Undergraduate		
COURSE CODE	**757**	SEMESTER	ε
COURSE TITLE	Use of New Technologies in Contemporary Social Issues		

INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES If ECTS credits are awarded separately for parts of the course (e.g. Lectures, Lab Exercises, etc.) list them accordingly. If credits are awarded as a whole, state the weekly teaching hours and total credits	WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS	ECTS CREDITS
	3	6

COURSE TYPE General background, specific background, specialization General knowledge, skills development	Elective / Specialization of General Knowledge
PREREQUISITE COURSES:	None
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMS:	Greek and English
THE COURSE IS OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	Yes
COURSE WEBSITE (URL)	www.soc.aegean.gr

LEARNING OUTCOMES
The learning outcomes of the course are described as the specific knowledge, skills and abilities of an appropriate level that students will acquire after successful completion of the course. Consult Appendix A • Description of the Levels of Learning Outcomes for each cycle of study according to the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area • Descriptive Indicators for Levels 6, 7 & 8 of the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning and Appendix B • Summary Guide for Writing Learning Outcomes
Students will be trained to acquire the following skills: - Critical Thinking: The ability to analyze information, evaluate arguments, and form evidence-based conclusions. - Problem Solving: The ability to identify problems, develop strategies, and implement solutions. - Data Analysis: The ability to collect, organize, analyze, and interpret data. - Information Synthesis: The ability to combine information from various sources to create a comprehensive picture.

- Communication: The ability to effectively communicate ideas both in writing and orally.

Competencies:
- Use of Statistical Packages: Skill in using software for data analysis.
- Quantitative Data Collection: Ability to apply methods for collecting statistical information.
- Qualitative Data Collection: Ability to apply methods for collecting non-numerical information.
- Familiarity with Modern Methodologies: Knowledge and understanding of current approaches in social research.
- Use of Digital Tools: Ability to use various digital tools to enhance research.
- Practical Skills: Ability to apply theoretical knowledge in real-world conditions.

General Competencies	
Considering the general competencies that graduates must acquire (as listed in the Diploma Supplement), which of these does the course aim to develop?	
- Searching, analyzing, and synthesizing data and information using necessary technologies - Adaptation to new situations and decision making - Autonomous and group work - Working in international and interdisciplinary environments - Generation of new research ideas - Project design and management - Respect for diversity, multiculturalism, and the natural environment - Demonstrating social, professional, and ethical responsibility and sensitivity to gender issues - Exercising critical and self-critical thinking - Promoting free, creative, and inductive thinking	

Teaching Approach

The course focuses on the use of modern technological tools in social research, with emphasis on statistical software and methods for collecting quantitative and qualitative data. Students will become familiar with contemporary methodologies and digital tools that enhance the research process. The course combines theoretical content with modern applications, emphasizing the acquisition of practical skills in the use of technological tools for social research.

COURSE CONTENT

Course Summary

Week 1: Introduction to New Technologies in Social Research
- Course overview and basic concepts
- Historical development of technological tools in social research
- Digital transformation of the research process
- Ethical issues and ethics in digital research

Week 2: Designing a Research Framework with Digital Tools
- Formulating research questions in the digital environment
- Selecting appropriate technological tools
- Designing a research protocol
- Practical application: Creating a research plan

Week 3: Quantitative Data Collection Methodologies
- Electronic questionnaires (Google Forms, SurveyMonkey, Qualtrics)
- Online experiments and experimental designs
- Sampling techniques in the digital environment
- Practical application: Designing an electronic questionnaire

Week 4: Qualitative Data Collection Methodologies
- Online interviews (Zoom, Teams, Skype)
- Digital ethnographic approaches
- Data collection from social networks
- Practical application: Designing an interview guide

Week 5: Introduction to Data Analysis and Statistical Packages
- Overview of statistical packages (SPSS)
- Basic principles of data organization and cleaning
- Introduction to descriptive statistics
- Practical application: First contact with SPSS

Week 6: Quantitative Data Analysis with SPSS
- Structure and environment of SPSS
- Data entry and management
- Basic statistical analyses
- Practical application: Data analysis with SPSS

Week 7: Advanced Data Analysis in SPSS
- Basic commands and statistical techniques
- Statistical analysis
- Research examples
- Practical application: Data analysis with SPSS

Week 8: Qualitative Data Analysis with Specialized Software
- Coding and analyzing qualitative data
- Thematic analysis with digital tools
- Practical application: Coding qualitative data

Week 9: Content and Social Network Analysis
- Content analysis methodologies on the internet
- Tools for data collection from social networks
- Social network analysis
- Practical application: Data analysis from social networks

Week 10: Data Visualization
- Principles of effective visualization
- Visualization tools
- Creating interactive graphs
- Practical application: Creating visualizations

Week 11: Big Data in Social Research
- Introduction to big data and their applications
- Big data analysis methodologies
- Big data processing tools
- Practical application: Processing large datasets

Week 12: AI and Machine Learning in Social Research
- Basic concepts of AI and machine learning
- Applications in social research
- Prediction and classification models
- Practical application: Using AI tools in data analysis

Week 13: Synthesizing and Presenting a Comprehensive Research
- Combining methodologies and tools
- Effective communication of research results
- Presentation of research projects
- Discussion of future trends and challenges

- **TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS - ASSESSMENT**

Delivery Method .	Face-to-face instruction	
Instructor	Efstratios Papanis	
Use of Information and Communication Technologies Use of ICT in teaching, laboratory training, and communication with students	Yes	
Teaching Organization The teaching method and methodology are described in detail. Lectures, Seminars, Laboratory Exercise, Field Exercise, Study & Analysis of Literature, Tutorial, Internship (Placement), Clinical Exercise, Artistic Workshop, Interactive Teaching, Educational Visits, Study Preparation (Project), Writing of Work / Assignments, Artistic Creation, etc.	Activity	Workload (Semester Hours)
	Lectures	39 hours
	Independent Study	78 hours
	Exam Preparation	60 hours

The student's study hours for each learning activity are listed as well as the hours of unguided study according to ECTS principles.		
	Total Course Workload:	177 hours
Student Assessment	Assessment Language: Greek and English	
Language of Assessment, Assessment Methods, Formative or Inferential, Multiple Choice Test, Short Answer Questions, Essay Development Questions, Problem Solving, Written Assignment, Report / Report, Oral Examination, Public Presentation, Laboratory Work, Clinical Examination of a Patient, Artistic Interpretation, Other / Others	Explicitly defined assessment criteria: - Individual practical assignments (40%) - Final examination (50%) - Participation in discussions and practical applications (10%)	
Clearly defined evaluation criteria will be provided and made accessible to students.		

RECOMMENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Authors	**Title**	**Year**
Fielding, N., Lee, R. M., & Blank, G.	The SAGE Handbook of Online Research Methods	2017
Ackland, R.	Web Social Science: Concepts, Data and Tools for Social Scientists in the Digital Age	2013
Bryman, A.	Social Research Methods	2016
Field, A.	Discovering Statistics Using IBM SPSS Statistics	2018
Wickham, H., & Grolemund, G.	R for Data Science	2017