

National Research Mordovia State University (MRSU)	
Faculty of Foreign Languages	
S Y L L A B U S	
Course Name	« Methodology of research »
Degree Programme	Master of Philology (Track “English for International Business”)
Year of Study	1 year
Semester	Autumn
ECTS (36 hrs per ECTS)	3 (108 hrs)
Instructor(s)	Prof. Irina Anashkina , Professor, Department of the English Language in Professional Communication
Language of Instruction	Russian / English
Course Requirements	Native Russian / At least B2 English
Course Overview	<p>Research is a process of collecting, analyzing and interpreting information to answer questions. But to qualify as research, the process must have certain characteristics: it must, as far as possible, be controlled, rigorous, systematic, valid and verifiable, empirical and critical.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controlled - in real life there are many factors that affect an outcome. The concept of control implies that, in exploring causality in relation to two variables (factors), you set up your study in a way that minimizes the effects of other factors affecting the relationship. • Rigorous - you must be scrupulous in ensuring that the procedures followed to find answers to questions are relevant, appropriate and justified. Again, the degree of rigor varies markedly between the physical and social sciences and within the social sciences. • Systematic - this implies that the procedure adopted to undertake an investigation follow a certain logical sequence. The different steps cannot be taken in a haphazard way. Some procedures must follow others. • Valid and verifiable - this concept implies that whatever you conclude on the basis of your findings is correct and can be verified by you and others. • Empirical - this means that any conclusions drawn are based upon hard evidence gathered from information collected from real life experiences or observations. • Critical - critical scrutiny of the procedures used and the methods employed is crucial to a research enquiry. The process of investigation must be foolproof and free from drawbacks. The process adopted and the procedures used must be able to withstand critical scrutiny.
Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knows the characteristics of a philological or linguistic research of a discourse written in either native or a foreign language; • Is capable of gathering, classifying and processing valid language or discourse facts and phenomena; • Competent in philological and linguistic terminology, provides correct academic reference skills.

Course unit contents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The methodology of linguistics fundamentals. • The dominant science paradigm in linguistics at present. • A particular research methods links and structure. • The stages of research when analysis and synthesis are applied? • What does the analytical stage of research consist in • What is synthesis • The goals of such a theoretical method or research as abstracting • Substantiation from the point of view of the method of research • Induction as a direction of thought • Deduction as a direction of thought • The contemporary language philosophy • Method of opposition • Method of distribution • Corpus linguistics
Course Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total number of contact hours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lectures: 14 hrs (7 lectures) - Seminars: 14 hrs (7 seminars) - Individual consultations: 3 hr • Self-study: 50 hrs
Teaching methods	Discovery learning, cooperative learning, practical learning, project.
Grading System (including segment percentage)	Grading is based on the activities covered with each activity. The total of all is 70% Final course project / Oral examination. The total of the final is 30%
Textbooks and Mandatory Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Methods for the Arts and Humanities Series Editor(s): Gabriele Griffin • An Introduction to Research Methods in the Humanities. Available from: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/315646488_An_Introduction_to_Research_Methods_in_the_Humanities#fullTextFileContent [accessed Sep 23 2023]. • Research Methods for English Studies Gabriele Griffin (editor of compilation) • Research Methods for the Digital Humanities Edited by Lewis Levenberg, Tai Neilson, David Rheams

