Content

Course Code	Course Name	Semester	Theory	Practice	Lab	Credit	ECTS
RI-615	Contemporary International Problems(Seminar Course)	1	3	0	0	0	5

Prerequisites	
Admission Requirements	

Language of Instruction	French
Course Type	Compulsory
Course Level	Masters Degree
Objective	This seminar aims to provide students with the methodological knowledge and skills required to produce a Master's thesis that meets the academic standards of the discipline of International Relations. It covers the main stages of the research process, including identifying and using relevant sources, formulating a research question, reviewing the literature, conceptualization, developing a research problem, and structuring a research project. Particular emphasis is placed on qualitative research methods.
Content	Key texts on the evolution of methodological debates within the discipline of International Relations are read and discussed interactively. The course then covers the main stages of the research process, including topic selection and delimitation, identifying and formulating a research problem, formulating research questions and hypotheses, conducting a literature review, and structuring a research project. The course also covers qualitative research methods, especially content analysis and discourse analysis. Case studies and practical exercises familiarise students with applying these methods.
References	- Amitav Acharya, Barry Buzan, "Why is there no non-Western international relations theory? An introduction", International Relations of the Asia-Pacific Vol. 7, No. 3, 2007, 287-312. - Ersel Aydınlı, Julie Mathews, "Are the Core and Periphery Irreconcilable? The Curious World of Publishing in Contemporary International Relations", International Studies Perspectives, Vol. 1, No. 3, 2002, 289-303. - Ersel Aydınlı (Der.), Uluslararası İlişkilerde Metodoloji, İstanbul: Koç Üniversitesi Yayınları, 2022. - Luigi Curini, Robert Franzese, The SAGE Handbook of Research Methods in Political Science and International Relations, SAGE, 2020. - Peter M. Kristensen, "How Can Emerging Powers Speak? On Theorists, Native Informants and Quasi-Officials in International Relations Discourse", Third World Quarterly, Vol. 36, No. 4, 2015, 637-653. - Christopher Lamont, Research Methods in International Relations, SAGE, 2015.

Theory Topics

Week	Weekly Contents
1	Course presentation
2	I- Methodological Issues in International Relations: A- Are International Relations a social science? Debates on methodology
3	B- Western/Non-Western distinction and legitimacy in scientific research
4	C- International Relations in Turkey
5	II- Research Ethics
6	III- Question-Based Research in International Relations A- Literature review
7	B- Research design: identifying variables and their relationships / causality and correlation
8	IV- Content Analysis: The issue of coding
9	V- Use of Web Data
10	VI- Discourse Analysis 1
11	VII- Game Theory
12	VIII- Large-N Analysis
13	IX- Field Research, Case Analysis
14	X- Writing the Research