

Программа учебной дисциплины
«Методология и методы политических исследований» (преподается на английском языке: «Methodology and Research Methods of Political Science and Economics»)

Утверждена
Академическим советом ООП
Протокол № от «__»____20__ г.

Authors	Mikhail Ilyin, Ivan Fomin
Credits	4
Face-to-face work (hours)	64
Independent work (hours)	88
Year	1
Format	no online course used

I. COURSE OBJECTIVES AND PRE-REQUISITES

The course objective is to shape students' critical thinking in the face of multiple epistemological strategies, working methodologies and theoretical approaches practiced in contemporary social sciences, to understand their powers and limits, to develop skills necessary for choosing analytical tools adequate to specific research areas and tasks, for designing research programs.

By the end of the course the students should:

- be able to evaluate and process scientific methods and ways of research activity;
- be able to conduct professional activity (including research activity) in an international environment;
- be able to assess, model and predict sociopolitical processes at the global, international, national, regional and local levels based on the methodology of theoretical and empirical research;
- be able to conduct research, including in interdisciplinary areas, independently formulate scientific hypotheses and innovative ideas, and test their validity;
- be able to use relevant scientific research results in political science and related disciplines, to develop political science applications for solving practical problems of professional activity;
- be able to work with contemporary scientific literature (including literature in English), analyze the state and trends of political science development;
- be able to develop the design of scientific and applied research, including those carried out by the team, based on contemporary methodologies of political science and general scientific approaches.

II. THE CONTENT OF THE COURSE

Topic 1. Introduction to the philosophy and methodology of science

Types of research enterprise. Theoretical, idiographic (descriptive, historical, case-study etc.) and empirical (comparative, comparative case study, experimental etc.) research, model-building etc. Measurement, comparison, interpretation. Epistemological assumptions of social sciences. Specific features of social research. The role of concepts, theories and approaches in social research. Main epistemological divides in social sciences.

Topic 2. Methodological specialization and integration.

Transfer of methods and practices of research across disciplinary divides. Transdisciplinary methodologies. Research methods and cognitive capacities. Challenges of transdisciplinarity Inter-disciplinarity, cross-disciplinarity, trans-disciplinarity. Methodologies of transdisciplinarity Transdisciplinarity in teaching, research and life.

Topic 3. Challenges of Quantitate Research

Measurement as a cognitive capacity. Measurement as a tool of social sciences. Measurement as an instrument of description and explication.

Topic 4. Challenges of Qualitative Research

Paradigmatic controversies in qualitative research. Analysis and interpretation in qualitative research. Signs, codes, texts and discourses in qualitative research.

Topic 5. Challenges of 'Mixed' Research.

Deficiencies of dichotomizing methods into quantitative and qualitative. Varying interpretations and dominant traditions of mixed methods approach. Ontological and epistemological reasons for mixing research methods and techniques. Applications of mixed methods.

Topic 6. Challenges of (neo)institutionalism(s).

'Calculus approach' and 'cultural approach' to institutions. Subject matter and methodology of institutionalisms. Political morphology.

Topic 7. Challenges of constructivist traditions.

Origins and foundations of constructivist traditions. Narratives and performatives in social reality. Multimodality of social interactions.

III. ASSESSMENT

Grading for the course is based in the following formulas:

$$Q_{\text{module2}} = Q_{\text{test}}$$

$$Q_{\text{prelim}} = 0,35 * Q_{\text{L\&S}} + 0,15 * Q_{\text{test}} + 0,35 * Q_{\text{pres}} + 0,15 * Q_{\text{rev}}$$

$$Q_{\text{final}} = 0,8 * Q_{\text{prelim}} + 0,2 * Q_{\text{exam}}$$

Q_{module2} – assessment for module 2.

Q_{prelim} – preliminary assessment

Q_{final} – final assessment

$Q_{\text{L\&S}}$ – lecture and seminar activity assessment

Q_{test} – test assessment

Q_{pres} – presentation assessment

Q_{rev1} – review assessment

Q_{exam} – written exam assessment

Additional condition: grades below 4 are not rounded.

IV. SAMPLE TASKS

Group work and presentations

Prepare a 30-minute oral presentation of a methodological outline for a research project on a topic of your choice.

Topic samples:

1. *Rise of Populism*
2. *Russian Regions and Russian Federalism*
3. *Russia's Alliance Politics*
4. *Political Discourses in Contemporary Russia*
5. *Brexit: Campaigning for and Dealing with*
6. *Secessions: Why and How?*
7. *Right-wing ideologies in the countries of the EU*
8. *Left-wing ideologies in the countries of the EU*
9. *Political participation in contemporary Russia*
10. *Contemporary Social Movements*
11. *Crisis, Choice and Change*

Reviews

Review your colleagues' presentation. Propose an alternative outline for a research project on the same topic.

Test

Define the following concepts:

- *Behaviouralism*
- *Transdisciplinarity*
- *Triangulation*
- *Delphi method*
- *Case study*

Exam

Two exam questions are based on the list of sub-topics from the content of the course (see Content of the Course).

V. RESOURCES

5.1. Required readings

1. Approaches and Methodologies in the Social Sciences: A Pluralist Perspective [Electronic resource]. Cambridge University Press, 2008. — URL: <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/hselibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=358875>
2. Hall P., Taylor R. Political Science and the Three New Institutionalisms [Electronic resource] // Political Studies (1996). — URL: <https://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2260/doi/10.1111/j.1467-9248.1996.tb00343.x>
3. Mahoney J., Goertz G. A Tale of Two Cultures: Contrasting Quantitative and Qualitative Research [Electronic resource] // Political Analysis. 2006. Vol. 14, no. 3. — URL: <https://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2448/ehost/detail/detail?vid=0&sid=e21d72cd-914c-4c63-864c-70c800811f73%40sdc-v-sessmgr02&bdata=#AN=21455117&db=poh>
4. Nicolescu B. A new vision of the world transdisciplinarity [Electronic resource]. URL: <http://ciret-transdisciplinarity.org/transdisciplinarity.php>.

5. Philosophy of Economics [Electronic resource]. North Holland, 2012. — URL: <http://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2048/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=edspub&AN=edp1248078&site=pdf-live>
6. Popper K.R. Objective knowledge: an evolutionary approach [Electronic resource]. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1979. — URL: <https://archive.org/details/objectiveknowled00popp>
7. Searle, J. What is an institution? // Journal of the Institutional Economics. 2005. Vol. 1, N 1. — URL: <https://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2100/core/journals/journal-of-institutional-economics/article/what-is-an-institution/3675101CE15BE2A7681CD5783C01F6D0>
8. The Oxford Handbook of Political Methodology [Electronic resource]. Oxford University Press, 2008. — URL: <http://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2089/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199286546.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780199286546>
9. The Oxford Handbook of Political Science [Electronic resource]. Oxford University Press, 2013. — URL: <http://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2089/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199604456.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780199604456>

5.2. Additional Readings

1. Coase, R. The nature of the firm [Electronic resource] // *Economica*, New Series. 1937. Vol. 4, No. 16. — URL: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/j.1468-0335.1937.tb00002.x>
2. Dryzek J.S. Revolutions without Enemies: Key Transformations in Political Science [Electronic resource] // *The American Political Science Review*. Vol. 100. No. 4. 2006. — URL: <https://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2100/core/journals/american-political-science-review/article/revolutions-without-enemies-key-transformations-in-political-science/DA9DB06F2DC5CCA57E03D7442E8A5C2A>
3. Hudik, M. Why economics is not a science of behavior [Electronic resource] // *Journal of Economic Methodology*, vol. 18, N 2, 2011. — URL: <https://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2129/doi/full/10.1080/1350178X.2011.575949>
4. King G., Keohane R. & Verba S. Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific inference in qualitative research [Electronic resource]. Princeton, 1994. — URL: <https://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2117/ehost/command/detail?vid=0&sid=c3231565-4633-478c-8d9b-688c0a0e9eb7%40sessionmgr104&bdata=#db=sih&jid=8VZT>
5. Patzelt W. The morphological approach to comparative regime analysis. Paper presented at the panel "Time matters: historical and evolutionary morphology of politics", IPSA World Congress, Madrid, 10 July 2012 [Electronic resource]. — URL: https://www.academia.edu/6037810/Patzelt_Evolutionary_morphology_IPSA_Madrid_2012

5.3. Software

№ п/п	Name	Access conditions
1.	Microsoft Windows 10	<i>HSE network</i>
2.	Microsoft Office Professional Plus 2016	<i>HSE network</i>

5.4. Professional databases, information systems and internet resources

№ п/ п	Name	Access conditions
1.	SAGE Journals Online	HSE library access URL: http://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2048/login?url=http://online.sagepub.com
2.	Scopus	HSE library access URL: http://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2048/login?url=http://www.scopus.com
3.	Web of Science	HSE library access URL: http://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2048/login?url=http://isiknowledge.com/wos
4.	EBSCO	HSE library access URL: http://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2048/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/
5.	Wiley Online Library	HSE library access URL: http://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2048/login?url=http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/browse/subjects
6.	SocIndex	HSE library access URL: http://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2048/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/
7.	Oxford Handbooks Online	HSE library access URL: http://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2048/login?url=http://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/
8.	Political Science Complete	HSE library access URL: http://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2048/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/
9.	Taylor & Francis	HSE library access URL: http://proxylibrary.hse.ru:2048/login?url=http://www.tandfonline.com/

5.5.Hardware

- PC with internet access;
- Multimedia projector.