

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

Course Title	Course Code	Semester	Course Hour/Week		Credit	ECTS
Research Methods & Discourses	ARCH 109	Fall 2025-2026	<b>Theory</b> 2	<b>Practice</b> 2	3	5
Course Type	Compulsory Courses	Department Elective	Faculty Elective	University Elective	CoHE (YÖK) Compulsory	Other
	X					
Level of Course	Associate Degree (Short Cycle)		Undergraduate (First Cycle)		Graduate/ Doctoral (Second /Third Cycle)	
			X			

<b>Language of Instruction</b>	English
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<b>Course Instructor(s)</b>	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Soad Abokhamis Mousavi	E-mail: <a href="mailto:soad.mousavi@arucad.edu.tr">soad.mousavi@arucad.edu.tr</a> Office : TI-OFF18	
<b>Course Objectives</b>	<p>This course aims at introducing prevalent research methods which are applicable in all theoretical, elective and design-based courses.</p> <p>Additionally, it aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of research methods relevant to their specific field or area of study.</p> <p>Through a combination of theoretical lectures, practical exercises, and real-world examples, students will develop the skills necessary to design, conduct, and analyze research effectively. Emphasis will be placed on critical thinking, problem-solving, and ethical considerations in research.</p>		
<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Students will able to:</b>	<b>Teaching Methods</b>	<b>Evaluation Methods</b>
	<b>Explain</b> and <b>interpret</b> general methodologies of research, demonstrating awareness of various possible methods in design-based research.	Lectures, seminars, discussion of research cases	Midterm Paper, submission, final exam
	<b>Apply</b> and <b>organize</b> systematic procedures to conduct research effectively.	Research planning workshops, individual supervision	Midterm Paper, submission, final exam
	<b>Analyze</b> scholarly texts critically and compose academic essays or beginner-level research papers.	Reading assignments, writing exercises, peer reviews	Midterm Paper, submission, final exam
	<b>Cite</b> and <b>apply</b> appropriate referencing styles to research texts and other academic or professional sources accurately.	Referencing tutorials, practical citation sessions	Midterm Paper, submission, final exam
	<b>Develop</b> innovative design solutions informed by research data and evidence through understanding methodologies.	Research-informed design tasks, data analysis practice	Midterm Paper, submission, final exam
	<b>Evaluate</b> and defend principles of intellectual property, maintaining honesty, justice, and fairness in academic and	Ethics discussions, academic integrity case studies	Midterm Paper, submission, final exam

	professional contexts.		
	<b>Communicate</b> and <b>collaborate</b> effectively through research activities, citation practices, and engagement with global scholarly sources.	Group discussion, collaborative writing, presentations	Midterm Paper, submission, final exam
<b>Course Content</b>	<p>The course introduces a systematic approach to conduct research works, from developing a research question via critically reading scholarly texts to writing individual scholarly texts. It introduces general methodologies of research and discusses a broad spectrum of disciplines, which might be used as specific methods/tools in design-based research works. It includes lectures, in-class training, research reports and paper works.</p> <p>In addition, this course is designed to introduce students to the Turnitin platform and guide them in learning how to use its features effectively for plagiarism self-check purposes. Through a combination of lectures, hands-on exercises, and practical assignments, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of plagiarism, its implications.</p>		

<b>COURSE OUTLINE/SCHEDULE</b>			
<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Implementation (theory/practice)</b>	<b>Classwork</b>
1	<b>General Introduction to the course.</b> What is research? Definitions of terms, research process, types of research, research outline.	T	
2	<b>Research types</b> Descriptive research, comparative research, problem-solving research. Structure of research paper, Research question, Online search.	T/P	<b>Introducing TURNITIN and plagiarism checking up process.</b>
3	<b>Literature review.</b> Literature search, Sources, Note taking, Paraphrasing. Techniques for paraphrasing. Developing reading and writing.	T/P	
4	<b>Referencing.</b> Plagiarism, Authorship, APA Manual style, Paraphrasing (exercise). Developing reading and writing.	T/P	<b>Introducing the Midterm paper, computer lab research.</b>
5	<b>Reading and annotating.</b> Analyzing a text rhetorically, identifying claim, claim of fact, claim of value, claim of policy. Developing reading and writing (Introducing the Midterm paper).	T/P	
6	Developing reading and writing (Developing the Midterm paper).	P	<b>Developing the Midterm paper, computer lab research.</b>
7	Developing reading and writing	T/P	<b>Developing the Midterm paper, computer lab research.</b>
8	Academic writing and paragraph development. <b>Midterm paper Submission</b>	T/P	
9	<b>Academic writing and paragraph development.</b> Tips for writing. Developing reading and writing	T	

10	<b>Data collection.</b> Nature of data, primary data, secondary data, qualitative and quantitative data. Developing reading and writing	T/P	<b>Computer lab research.</b>
11	<b>Methodology (types).</b> Qualitative and quantitative, interview, focus group, participant observation and questionnaires. Developing reading and writing	T/P	<b>Computer lab research.</b>
12	<b>Field work.</b> Field observation, field note, research sample: Tilting (Robert Mellin). Developing reading and writing (final paper).	T/P	<b>Introducing the final paper, computer lab research.</b>
13	<b>Structure of research paper.</b> Developing reading and writing (final paper).	T/P	<b>Developing the final paper, computer lab research.</b>
14	Developing reading and writing ( <b>Final paper</b> ).	P	<b>Developing the final paper, computer lab research.</b>
15	Developing reading and writing ( <b>Final paper</b> ).	P	<b>Developing the final paper, computer lab research.</b>
16	<b>Final Exam</b>		

<b>Required Course Material(s) / Reading(s) / Text Book(s)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Methods for Architecture Raymond Lucasby. Call No: NA2000 .L83 2016</li> <li>• Research methods for product design Alex Milton and Paul Rodgers. Call No: TS171.4 .M78 2013</li> <li>• Research design: quantitative, qualitative, mixed methods, arts-based, and community-based participatory research approaches / Patricia Leavy. Call No: H62 .L396 2017</li> </ul>
<b>Recommended Course Material(s) / Reading(s) / Other</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to write a phenomenological dissertation: a step-by-step guide / Katarzyna Peoples, Walden University. Call No: B829.5 .P3634 2021</li> </ul>

<b>ASSESSMENT</b>		
<b>Learning Activities</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>WEIGHT (%)</b>
Mid-Term	1	40
Quiz	-	-
Assignment	-	-
Project	-	-
Field Study	-	-
Presentation / Seminar	-	-
Studio Practice	-	-
Other (class participation)	-	-
<b>Contribution of Final Examination/Final Project/ Dissertation to the Final Grade</b>	1	60
<b>TOTAL</b>		100



<b>CONTRIBUTION OF COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES TO PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES</b>		
<b>No</b>	<b>PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES</b>	<b>Level of Contribution (1- lowest / 5- highest)</b>

		1	2	3	4	5
1	Obtain knowledge of elements of visual and physical language of design, essential design principles, such as form, function, energy, space, nature and society.		X			
2	Understand design concept, its development process and diverse communication and visualization tools, including digital, augmented and virtual realities.	X				
3	Comprehend the history of design and art, their impact on design thinking processes, and the methodologies of design-related research.				X	
4	Explore architecture as a profession, and design process as a holistic system.	X				
5	Produce sketches and technical drawings according to standards and codes and by applying diverse tools.	X				
6	Develop creativity and personal style in architecture and communicate design proposals verbally, visually and textually through a range of media to the client.	x				
7	Conduct research systematically and apply research based methods and critical thinking in design process and problem solving.					
8	Produce models and conduct cost estimation of architecture projects, along with the technical documentation for projects realization.	X				
9	Be engaged in continuous self-development, lifelong learning and architecture professional practice development after graduation.			X		
10	Demonstrate mastery of innovative design tools, techniques and concepts in architecture and proficiency in selection and use of relevant design technologies.	X				
11	Operate as reflective practitioner and validate a coherent and critical understanding of the various theoretical, historical, cultural, contextual and ecological dimensions impacting on their practice, and their relationship to the intended audience.			X		
12	Apply a range of professional and self-management skills and demonstrate proficiency in researching, observing, investigating and critically evaluating information and concepts from a wide range of relevant sources.			x		

ECTS / STUDENT WORKLOAD				
ACTIVITIES	NUMBER	UNIT	HOUR	TOTAL (WORKLOAD)
Course Teaching / Practice Hour (weeks/total course hours)	15	1	4	60
Assignment				
Midterm Project	1		30	30
Field Study / Project				
Final Project	1		40	40
<b>TOTAL WORKLOAD</b>				130
<b>TOTAL WORKLOAD / 25</b>				5.2
<b>ECTS</b>				<b>5</b>

ETHICAL RULES WITH REGARD TO THE COURSE
<p><b>Plagiarism Disclaimer</b></p> <p>Detected and undetected plagiarism is a serious offence at any time and it could have devastating effects on your degree result and future professional lives.</p> <p>Plagiarism is easy to avoid if you make sure to identify and acknowledge your sources thoroughly and do not copy directly from visual examples, designs, or notes that have in turn been taken word for word from your sources.</p>

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	SDG 1: No Poverty	
	SDG 2: Zero Hunger	
	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	
	SDG 4: Quality Education	√
	SDG 5: Gender Equality	
	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	
	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	
	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	
	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	√
	SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	
	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	
	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	
	SDG 13: Climate Action	
	SDG 14: Life Below Water	
	SDG 15: Life on Land	
	SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	√
	SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals	√

**ASSESSMENT DETAILS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Final Grades will be determined according to the Course Learning Activities and Final Project Assessment Details as below, and comply by the Education and Examination Regulation set forth by the University.

The assessment for this course comprises a written midterm research report testing the development of comprehension of research methods to that point in time. A 2nd research report submitted between midterm and final exam period is assessed in terms of progression. The topics are chosen from a selection of the lecturer or suggested by the students and approved by the lecturer. The final research paper

evolves from the 2nd research report considering the critique and feedback of the lecturer as to comprehension and application of research methods. Research reports and papers may be individual or group work. The details of topics and assessment criteria of the assignments are handed out to students separately during the course.

**Mid-term paper (40%), and Final paper (60%)** marks will be combined to give an overall assessment mark for this course. **Mandatory attendance rate**

\* According to the updated Senate decision as of the 2023-2024 academic year, mandatory attendance for all of our courses is 70%, regardless of medical reports. Reports will only be valid if exams cannot be attended. Students who cannot take the exam due to health reasons must submit a report to the faculty secretary within three working days following the exam.

<b>PREPARED BY</b>	Asst. Prof. Dr. Ehsan Daneshyar-
<b>UPDATED</b>	Asst. Prof. Dr. Olgica Grcheva (20.09.2024)- Assoc.Prof.Dr Soad Abokhamis Mousavi(September 2025)
<b>APPROVED</b>	