Group: IMTH　　　　　　　　**Degree: Master**　　　　　　　　**Course: Research Methods**

1. **Credits: 3**

2. **Grade & Semester: First year, first semester**

3. **Prerequisites: N/A**

4. **Course objectives:**

This course aims to guide students towards achieving competence and proficiency in the theory of and practice to research. The objectives of the course therefore include enabling students to understand what research is and what is not, raise awareness of crucial aspects of the nature of knowledge and the value of the scientific method. Moreover, the aim of the course is to introduce students to the considerations at the heart of every research project including what a researchable problem is, evaluating and reviewing literature, form a variety of sources, pertinent to the research objectives as well as identifying and justifying the basic components of the research framework relevant to the research problem. The objectives of the course are further to teach students how to cite sources, using the guidelines of the American Psychological Association and consider the kind of language to use in an academic written work as well as explaining and justifying how researchers collect data and outlining the common mistakes made in research methodology, The final objective is to have students use this knowledge to put forward a credible research proposal.

5. **Course description/outline:**

This course introduces and discusses approaches, strategies, and data collection methods relating to research in the social sciences. Students will learn how to select an appropriate methodology for use in a study to be performed. Additionally, the students will learn about different data collection methods, how to construct data collection instruments and pilot them before they become ready for use. Finally, this course elucidates the requirements for an academic project, considering aspects related to language, writing style, and lay-out. To culminate this final stage, students will learn to write a comprehensive research proposal that may be conducted in the future.