



UNIVERSITETI / UNIVERSITY
"ISA BOLETINI"
MITROVICË

Course Curriculum Model (Syllabus)		
Faculty:	FACULTY OF MECHANICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING	
Department:	Mechanical Engineering and Economic Engineering	
Study Program	MSc in Manufacturing Technology and Management	
Level:	Master	
Code of the course:	209MTM	
Course:	Seminar	
Course Status:	Mandatory	Mandatory/Elective
Semester:	IV	Winter/ Summer
Number of hours per week:	2	
ECTS:	7	
Time / location:	Flexible	
Academic Year / Semester	2026/2027	
Language of Instruction:	Albanian (with flexibility in English)	
Lecturer:	Prof. Ass. Dr. Fatmir Azemi	
Assistant:		
Contact details:	Professor	Assistant
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	Telephone:	
Course Description	This seminar prepares students for the successful development of their Master's Thesis by guiding them through the process of topic selection, literature review, research planning, and thesis proposal preparation. Students refine their research ideas, define research objectives and scope, review relevant scientific literature, and develop a structured thesis proposal under the guidance of academic staff. The seminar emphasizes critical thinking, academic communication, independent work, and constructive feedback through consultations and presentations. Upon successful completion of the seminar, students will have an approved thesis proposal and will be prepared to commence their Master's Thesis.	
Course Purpose / Course Goals	• To prepare students for the successful development of their Master's Thesis through topic selection, research planning, and thesis proposal preparation. • To enable students to critically review and synthesize relevant scientific literature related to their selected research area. • To support students in defining research objectives, scope, and expected contributions of their proposed thesis. • To strengthen students' academic writing, presentation, and scientific communication skills. • To promote independent learning, critical thinking, and constructive engagement with academic supervisors and peers. • To prepare students for commencing the Master's Thesis with an approved and well-structured research proposal.	
Course Objectives	The seminar aims to guide students in selecting and refining a master's thesis topic, conducting a critical review of relevant scientific literature, defining the research problem and objectives, and preparing a well-structured thesis proposal. It also supports the development of academic writing, presentation, and communication skills necessary for successful master's-level research and thesis work.	

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)	Knowledge K1: Demonstrate knowledge of the master's thesis development process, including topic selection, proposal preparation, and academic requirements. K2: Understand the role of scientific literature, research planning, and academic communication in master's-level research.
	Skills S1: Formulate a research problem, research objectives, and the scope of a master's thesis topic. S2: Conduct a critical review of relevant scientific literature and prepare a structured thesis proposal. S3: Present and defend a thesis proposal using appropriate academic and professional communication skills. Competences C1: Work independently in planning and preparing a master's thesis proposal. C2: Critically evaluate scientific literature and identify research gaps relevant to the selected topic. C3: Demonstrate readiness to commence the Master's Thesis under the guidance of an academic supervisor.

	Weeks	Lecture
Program	Week 1:	Introduction to the course, overview of the Master's Thesis process, selection of the research area, and identification of a preliminary thesis topic.
	Week 2-3:	Refinement of the thesis topic, definition of the research problem, objectives, scope of the study, and consultation with potential thesis supervisors.
	Week 4-5:	Critical review of the relevant scientific literature, identification of research gaps, and justification of the proposed research within the existing scientific context.
	Week 6-7:	Development of the research proposal, adaptation of an appropriate research methodology, preparation of the research plan, timeline, and expected outcomes.
	Week 8-9:	Preparation of the literature review and methodology sections, development of the thesis proposal, and individual consultations with the lecturer and potential supervisors.
	Week 10-11:	Academic writing, scientific referencing, research ethics, preparation of the complete master's thesis proposal, and proposal revision.
	Week 12-13:	Presentation and discussion of the master's thesis proposal, peer review, supervisor feedback, and refinement of the proposal.
	Week 14-15:	Finalization, submission, and approval of the master's thesis proposal, confirming the student's readiness to commence the Master's Thesis .

Literature / Reading List:				
Literature	Basic References - Booth, W. C., Colomb, G. G., Williams, J. M., Bizup, J., & Fitzgerald, W. T. (2024). <i>The Craft of Research</i> (5th ed.). University of Chicago Press. - Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2023). <i>Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches</i> (6th ed.). SAGE Publications. - Turabian, K. L. (2018). <i>A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations</i> (9th ed.). University of Chicago Press. - American Psychological Association (APA). (2020). <i>Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association</i> (7th ed.). - UIBM. <i>Guidelines for Master's Thesis Preparation and Academic Writing</i>.			
	Supplementary References - Selected scientific articles from journals indexed in Scopus, Web of Science, and other relevant academic databases related to the student's selected thesis topic. - Recent conference proceedings, technical reports, and industrial case studies in Manufacturing Technology and Management. - University regulations and procedures related to Master's Thesis preparation, supervision, submission, and defense. - Relevant publications and reports from international organizations and professional associations related to advanced manufacturing, Industry 5.0, sustainability, digital transformation, and engineering management.			

Teaching and Learning Methods	- Interactive seminars and guided discussions. - Individual and group consultations with the lecturer and potential thesis supervisors. - Independent literature review and critical analysis of scientific sources. - Development of the master's thesis proposal through supervised academic work. - Student presentations, peer review, and constructive feedback sessions. - Independent study and academic writing activities.			
	Contribution to student workload (which should correspond to student learning outcomes - 1 ECTS credit = 25 hours)			
	Activity	Hours	Days/weeks	Total
	Lectures	2	15	30
	Guided independent research and literature review	5	15	75
	Individual consultations	2	15	30
	Research proposal preparation	5	15	75
	Midterm proposal presentation	2	1	2
	Self-study	4	8	32
	Final proposal presentation	2	2	4
	Proposal revision and submission	2	1	2
Total				250

Evaluation	Assessment Methods and Criteria: • Master's Thesis Proposal – 40% • Literature Review and Research Planning – 20% • Proposal Presentation and Defense – 20% • Active Participation, Consultations, and Continuous Progress – 20% (according to the Statute and Regulation for studies of UMIB)		
	Final grade	Points (%)	Mark
		91 – 100	10
		81 - 90	9
		71 - 80	8
		61 - 70	7
		51 - 60	6

Academic policies	Academic Policies Attendance: Regular attendance and active participation in lectures, consultations, discussions, and presentations are expected throughout the course. Academic Work: Students are required to prepare all assignments, literature reviews, and the master's thesis proposal using appropriate academic writing standards and digital tools. All submitted work must meet the required scientific and formatting standards. Academic Integrity: All submitted work must be the student's original work. Plagiarism, inappropriate use of AI-assisted tools without proper acknowledgment, copying from published sources or other students, and any form of academic misconduct will be treated in accordance with the University Statute and academic regulations. Deadlines: Students are expected to meet all submission deadlines for research proposals, presentations, and other course assignments. Extensions may be granted only in justified cases with prior approval from the course lecturer. Students are encouraged to attend regular consultations to ensure satisfactory progress throughout the seminar and in the preparation of their master's thesis proposal. Rules of conduct and academic policies: ● active participation of students in lectures o participation in discussion, comments and free expression of opinion, opinion and academic position (with arguments) ● mandatory independent work and use of additional sources of information (various scientific websites, scientific journals, conference proceedings, etc.) ● respecting lecture schedules without compromising academic freedom (silent cell phones) of respecting the word, thoughts and ideas of colleagues, ● it is not allowed to arrive late and leave without a valid reason from the lecture, test or exam o preparation and holding of relevant lectures, (obligation of the teacher). ● if the student is absent more than four times without reason in lectures and exercises, does not receive the signature for attendance. o the student cannot take the exam without an official document, ● if the student is dissatisfied with the grade obtained, has the right to complain in writing to the dean, within two working days after the announcement of the results, UMIB Statute o if the student does not follow the rules, in the exam uses tools that are not allowed, it is evaluated with a negative grade. Plagiarism or cheating will be penalized according to university regulations.
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