Course Descriptions None 2022-2023

Course Title	Thesis Research Proposal
Course Code	SSP3011
ECTS Credits	3,0
Assessment	Whole/Half Grades

Period

Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
S1	5-9-2022	27-1-2023			X		

Level	Advanced
Coordinator	Clarence Bluntz For more information:c.bluntz@maastrichtuniversity.nl
Language of instruction	English
Goals	After completion of the Thesis Research Proposal course, you have shown the ability: * to acquire knowledge and understanding of the logic and structure of research proposals * to choose a theory and/or analytical framework that will be central in your research * to translate a sustainable development issue into a scientific research question(s) * to choose a research design and methods that are suitable to answer the question(s) * to reflect upon one's own research proposal and the research proposal of other students
Description	PLEASE NOTE THAT THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT METHOD(S) USED IN THIS COURSE IS WITH RESERVATION. A RE-EMERGENCE OF THE CORONAVIRUS AND NEW COUNTERMEASURES BY THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT MIGHT FORCE COORDINATORS TO CHANGE THE TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT METHODS USED. THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ABOUT THE TEACHING/ASSESSMENT METHOD(S) WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE COURSE SYLLABUS. The thesis trajectory of the Master SSPS programme consists of two phases: first, the Thesis Research Proposal (SSP3011) and second, the Master Thesis: research, writing, and presenting (SSP3021). Delivering a Master's thesis is a demanding task. It may be your first experience in developing crucial generic research skills. These skills concern, in particular, identifying a relevant research topic, studying the literature to identify knowledge gaps, formulating research questions, selecting a suitable research strategy and methods, planning your research and organizing time, collecting and analysing data, reporting your research in a thesis, and presenting it to your supervisors. From a students' perspective, the thesis trajectory is above all an individual process where you have to prove that you can organize and implement a piece of scientific research completely on your own, but under guidance of your supervisors. In the Thesis Research Proposal (TRP) course you will work on your research proposal. The course aims to be a learning community of students under guidance of the course coordinator and tutors and supported by the supervisors. In the course specific attention is given to formulating scientific research questions and selecting suitable research methods. During tutorials students present their research questions, research methods, and TRP outline, and provide feedback to others. At the end of the course each student should have a final TRP, which is the entry point for the Thesis Research, Writing and Presenting period (SSP3021).
Literature	Martyn Denscombe's book Research Proposals – A Practical Guide (2012), 178 pages, Open University Press.
Prerequisites	
Keywords	
Teaching methods	PBL / Presentation / Research / Skills
Assessment methods	Attendance / Participation / Presentation
Evaluation in previous academic year	For the complete evaluation of this course please click http://iwio-sbe.maastrichtuniversity.nl/rapporten.asp?referrer=codeUM

This course belongs to the following programme / specialisation

Master Sustainability Science, Policy and Society	Thesis