# Course Descriptions None 2025-2026

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| Course Title | Research Approaches and Methods |
| Course Code | SSP3031 |
| ECTS Credits | 2,0 |
| Assessment | Pass / Fail |

Period

| Period | Start | End | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N/A | 1-1-1900 | 1-1-1900 | | | | | |

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| Level | no level |
| Coordinator | For more information: |
| Language of instruction | English |
| Goals | Students:<br>* Understand common research approaches and their differences.<br>* Recognize how a different research approach may lead to different research results and a different way in which results are relevant for policy and society.<br>* Explain why and how a thesis literature review can be performed.<br>* Understand different methods for data collection (interviews, questionnaires, document analysis) and how to perform these.<br>* Recognize and understand different methods for data analysis, (coding qualitative data and key quantitative analysis concepts for statistical analysis) and how these can be applied. |
| Description | Before conducting academic research in the field of sustainability science, it is important to understand the basics of research approaches and methods used within the field. Both the choice for an approach and the method(s), influence the way in which a topic is studied and the research results.<br><br>This course aims to provide students with the basic knowledge and experience to perform a thesis-related literature review, understand the methodological underpinnings of a chosen research approach, undertake data collection and engage in data analysis in a scholarly way. |
| Literature | Reference list will be provided. |
| Prerequisites | |
| Keywords | |
| Transitional Regulations | TRANSITIONAL REGULATIONS: <ul class="trcohorts"><li>Master Sustainability Science, Policy and Society</li><li>Master Sustainability Science, Policy and Society - Business for Sustainability</li><li>Master Sustainability Science, Policy and Society Policy for Sustainability</li></ul><ol><li>From 2025-2026 onwards, the course is cancelled and replaced by SSP3041 Academic Skills and Research Design.</li></ol><table><col style="width: 200px;"><col style="width: 120px;"><col style="width: 120px;"><col><thead><tr><th>Academic Year</th><th>Education</th><th>Exam/Resit</th><th>Replacement(s)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2025-2026 onwards</td><td> </td><td> </td><td>SSP3041 Academic Skills and Research Design</td></tr></tbody></table> |
| Teaching methods | PBL / Lecture |
| Assessment methods | Assignment |
| 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

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| Master Sustainability Science, Policy and Society - Business for Sustainability | Cancelled - Compulsory Skills |
| Master Sustainability Science, Policy and Society - Policy for Sustainability | Cancelled - Compulsory Skills |
| Master Sustainability Science, Policy and Society | Cancelled - Compulsory Skills |