UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

Course Unit Program
THESIS DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR

Academic Year 2025/2026

1. Organic Unit

Higher Institute of Social Work

2. Course

SOCIAL WORK

3. Cycle

3rd

4. Course Unit

THESIS DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR (I2108)

5. Scientific Area

6. Curricular Year

2nd

7. Type of Curricular Unit / Semester

1st Semester

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8. Class type and workload (work time)

Theoretical classes:
Practical classes:
Theoretical-Practical Classes
Tutorial Guidance:

9. ECTS Credits

20,00

10. Scientific Area Coordinator

11. Regent

Prof. Doutora MARIA ISABEL DE JESUS SOUSA

12. Assistants

13. Teaching Language

Portuguese

14. General Objectives

- Support doctoral students in the process of developing the thesis project, namely, on the research design;
- Debate the epistemological and conceptual foundations inherent to the thesis project, as well as the methodological options included in the process of preparing Doctoral Theses.

15. Specific Objectives

1. Analyze the scientific and social relevance of the topics to be investigated
2. Analyze the different theoretical and methodological options regarding the themes and objects of study
3. Enhance instrumental skills related to the writing and structuring of theses.
4. Reflecting on ethical issues in research processes.

16. Skills to be acquired

1. Autonomy in delimiting the object and research questions
2. Autonomy in the research design and selection of relevant literature
3. Proficiency in data collection and analysis
4. Critical reflection on the product and consequence of scientific research
5. Understanding the rules and ethical principles applied to research

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17. Teaching Methodology

Seminar Dynamics, in which the active and planned participation of doctoral students is assumed, starting with the presentation of their thesis project ideas, evaluated by the professor and/or invited guests, followed by debate and contributions from other doctoral students. Additionally, conferences will be organized on broad themes, both from the perspective of theoretical frameworks close to Social Work and from the perspective of research methodology in Social Sciences.

18. Course Unit Program

1. Presentation of the themes, issues and problematization inherent to the object of study
2. Derive and delimit the research objective and its theoretical-methodological framework
3. Presentation and discussion of the theoretical framework and respective axes of analysis
4. Presentation of methodological proposals - nature of the studies, definition of data collection techniques and instruments, definition of fields and samples
5. Debate on the ethical dimension of research.

19. Assessment Methods

The evaluation will be carried out using the following elements:
- Oral presentation of thesis projects and ability to clarify theoretical-methodological options - 40% of the final grade.
- Written presentation of the project - 60% of the final grade.

20. Didactic Resources

- Bibliographic reference documents
- Web resources
- Theoretical-methodological support guiding theses in PowerPoint format
- Computer and multimedia projector
- Digital platforms (MOODLE & TEAMS).

21. Sustainability Objectives

Education and quality, Work and economic growth

22. Keywords

Research Design
Questioning
methods
Data collection
Analytics

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23. Main Bibliography

Author(s):	Alston, Margaret; Penny Buykx; Wendy Foote & David Betts		
Title:	Handbook of Research Methods in Social Work		
Edition:		Year:	2025
Local:			
Publisher:	Edward Elgar Publishing		
ISBN Code:	9781035310166		

Author(s):	Faulkner, Samuel & Cynthia Faulkner		
Title:	Research Methods for Social Workers. A Practice-Based Approach		
Edition:	4th	Year:	2025
Local:	Oxford		
Publisher:	Oxford University Press		
ISBN Code:	9780197771228		

Author(s):	Blaikie, Norman & Jan Priest		
Title:	Social Research Paradigms in Action		
Edition:		Year:	2016
Local:			
Publisher:	Polity Press		
ISBN Code:			

24. Complementary Bibliography

Author(s):	Schmitter, Philippe C.		
Title:	The design of social & political research		
Edition:		Year:	2008
Local:	Cambridge		
Publisher:	Cambridge University Press		
ISBN Code:			

Author(s):	Malcolm Carey		
Title:	Qualitative Research Skills for Social Work: Theory and Practice		
Edition:		Year:	2012
Local:			
Publisher:	Ashgate Publishing		
ISBN Code:			

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Ficha técnica MIP / MIP Datasheet	
Título / Title	Course Unit Program 'SEMINÁRIO DE DESENVOLVIMENTO DE TESE': Academic Year 2025/2026
Autor / Author	Prof. Doutora MARIA ISABEL DE JESUS SOUSA
Classificação / Classification	-
Descritores / Descriptors	-
Colaborador(es) / Colaborator(s	-
Data Hora / Date Time	
Formato de dados / Data Format	Texto / Text, PDF
Estatuto de utilização / Usage	Acesso público / Public Access
Relação / Relation	Version 1,0

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