



UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

Course Unit Program
Research Methods and Techniques

Academic Year 2026/2027

1. Organic Unit

Faculty of Law

2. Course

LAW

3. Cycle

2nd

4. Course Unit

Research Methods and Techniques (71601)

5. Scientific Area

6. Curricular Year

1st

7. Type of Curricular Unit / Semester

2nd Semester



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8. Class type and workload (work time)

Theoretical classes:

Practical classes:

Theoretical-Practical Classes 15,00

Tutorial Guidance:

9. ECTS Credits

7,50

10. Scientific Area Coordinator

11. Regent

Prof. Doutor PEDRO MIGUEL MARTINS GONÇALVES CARIDADE DE FREITAS

12. Assistants

13. Teaching Language

Portuguese

14. General Objectives

The objective is to transmit to master's students the principles and rules of scientific research methodology applied to legal science. It is intended to transmit a solid and up-to-date training regarding the formal and substantial aspects necessary for the investigation and realization of a doctoral thesis.

15. Specific Objectives

The master's student should know the different methods of scientific investigation, as well as those that are applied to legal science. It will also have to attend to the characteristic disciplinarity of the legal knowledge, as well as to know in depth the legal sources that serve as base to the investigation of a doctoral thesis.

From a formal point of view, master's students must know the rules for preparing a doctoral thesis.

16. Skills to be acquired

Knowledge of formal and bibliographic aspects and legal databases.

Planning and elaboration of a research project.

In-depth knowledge of formal rules in the preparation of scientific papers.

Knowledge of the legal regime of plagiarism.

17. Teaching Methodology



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Classes will be taught through exposition of material and debates with students on the topics to be addressed. practical exercises will be carried out to consolidate the taught concepts, in order to prepare the students for the preparation of the master's thesis.

18. Course Unit Program

1. Legal reasoning: subsumption, dialectic, rhetoric and topic.
2. Legal research methodology, research methods and techniques.
3. Research in Law and its characteristics: interdisciplinarity.
4. Doctoral research: systematization, analysis, critical coherence, originality, innovation, independence.
5. Ethics in scientific research: rigor, intellectual honesty, plagiarism.
6. Legal sources: databases and libraries.
7. Formal aspects in the preparation of doctoral theses:
 - 7.1. The elaboration of the bibliography;
 - 7.2. Bibliographical and jurisprudential citations and references;
 - 7.3. Internal organization of a doctoral thesis: mandatory and optional elements.
 - 7.4. Writing the thesis: the introduction, conclusion and internal systematization.
8. Planning and elaboration of the investigation plan.
9. Elaboration of several legal texts: article, report, review and thesis.

19. Assessment Methods

The evaluation is done through the elaboration of a critical review of a book or commentary on a judgment. Students' participation in class is valued in the assessment.

20. Didactic Resources

Bibliography. Powerpoint. Internet

21. Sustainability Objectives

The Research Methodology and Techniques curricular unit aims to contribute to sustainability in the following areas:

General:

- 1 - Ensure equal access to quality technical, professional and cultural education.
- 2 - Substantially increase the number of young people and adults with relevant qualifications, including technical and professional skills, for employment, decent work and entrepreneurship.
- 3 - Guarantee equal opportunities in university education, including for people in vulner

22. Keywords



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Investigation.
Legal method.
Dissertation.
Plagiarism.



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23. Main Bibliography

Author(s): Azevedo, Carlos Moreira e Azevedo, Ana Gonçalves de
Title: Contributos Práticos para a Elaboração de Trabalhos Académicos
Edition: 9.^a Year: 2009
Local: Lisboa
Publisher: Universidade Católica Portuguesa
ISBN Code:

Author(s): Luís Poças
Title: Manual de Investigação em Direito
Edition: Year: 2020
Local: Coimbra
Publisher: Almedina
ISBN Code:

Author(s): Eco, Humberto
Title: Como se faz uma Tese em Ciências Humanas
Edition: Year: 2015
Local: Lisboa
Publisher: Editorial Presença
ISBN Code:

24. Complementary Bibliography

Author(s): Moreira, Carlos Diogo
Title: Teorias e Práticas de Investigação
Edition: Year: 2007
Local: Lisboa
Publisher: ISCSP
ISBN Code:

Author(s):
Title:
Edition: Year:
Local:
Publisher:
ISBN Code:



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Autor / Author	Prof. Doutor PEDRO MIGUEL MARTINS GONÇALVES CARIDADE DE FREITAS
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