UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

Course Unit Program
Seminar: Research Methods and Techniques

Academic Year 2025/2026

1. Organic Unit

Faculty of Architecture and Arts

2. Course

ARCHITECTURE

3. Cycle

3rd

4. Course Unit

Seminar: Research Methods and Techniques (91101)

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
Tutorial Guidance:

9. ECTS Credits

15,00

10. Scientific Area Coordinator

11. Regent

Profª Doutora Arqtª HELENA CRISTINA CAEIRO BOTELHO

12. Assistants

13. Teaching Language

Portuguese

14. General Objectives

Develop advanced research skills in architecture, promoting the mastery of scientific methodologies, critical analysis tools and knowledge production strategies applied to design, theory and territory.

15. Specific Objectives

Introduce qualitative and quantitative research methods; structure research problems, hypotheses and objectives; develop skills in literature review, critical analysis and methodological design; support the development and communication of doctoral research projects.

16. Skills to be acquired

Ability to formulate research questions; select appropriate methodologies; critically interpret sources and data; build scientific arguments; communicate results orally and in writing; develop critical autonomy and methodological rigor.

17. Teaching Methodology

Theoretical-practical classes, seminars, critical discussion of texts and case studies, tutorial supervision and regular presentation of ongoing research work, promoting debate, critical reflection and collaborative learning.

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18. Course Unit Program

This course addresses the epistemological and methodological foundations of research in architecture, fostering a critical understanding of the relationships between theory, design, territory and knowledge production.

The syllabus includes:

- Introduction to scientific research in architecture: disciplinary specificities and interdisciplinarity.
- Epistemology and research paradigms.
- Formulation of research problems, hypotheses, objectives and research questions.
- Qualitative and quantitative methods applied to architecture and urbanism.
- Strategies for data collection, analysis and interpretation.
- Literature review, theoretical framework and state of the art.
- Visual, cartographic and design-based research methods.
- Structure and organization of the doctoral research project.
- Academic writing, citation standards and research ethics.
- Scientific communication and presentation techniques.
- Critical discussion of case studies and reference research projects.
- Presentation and debate of students? research work.

The practical component focuses on the progressive development of the individual research project through tutorial supervision sessions and seminar presentations with critical discussion.

19. Assessment Methods

Continuous assessment based on participation in seminars and debates, oral presentations, progressive development of the research project and submission of a final written work including methodological definition and critical framework.

20. Didactic Resources

Specialized scientific bibliography, articles and case studies, digital learning platforms, audiovisual resources, academic databases and tutorial supervision of research projects.

21. Sustainability Objectives

Promotion of critical research on environmental, social and cultural sustainability in the built environment and territory, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals, encouraging responsible, inclusive and interdisciplinary approaches.

22. Keywords

Architectural Research
Scientific Methodology
Research Project
Architectural Theory
Epistemology

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23. Main Bibliography

Author(s):	Groat, Linda; Wang, David		
Title:	Architectural Research Methods		
Edition:	2nd ed.	Year:	2013
Local:	Hoboken, NJ		
Publisher:	Wiley		
ISBN Code:	978-0470908556		

Author(s):	Aksamija, Ajla		
Title:	Research Methods for the Architectural Profession		
Edition:	1st ed.	Year:	2021
Local:	New York		
Publisher:	Routledge		
ISBN Code:	978-0367433963		

Author(s):	Lucas, Ray		
Title:	Research Methods for Architecture		
Edition:	1st ed.	Year:	2016
Local:	London		
Publisher:	Laurence King Publishing		
ISBN Code:	978-1780675354		

24. Complementary Bibliography

Author(s):	Fraser, Murray (ed.)		
Title:	Design Research in Architecture: An Overview		
Edition:	1st ed.	Year:	2013
Local:	Farnham		
Publisher:	Ashgate		
ISBN Code:	978-1409449700		

Author(s):	Booth, Wayne C.; Colomb, Gregory G.; Williams, Joseph M.		
Title:	The Craft of Research		
Edition:	4th ed.	Year:	2016
Local:	Chicago		
Publisher:	University of Chicago Press		
ISBN Code:	978-0226239736		

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Ficha técnica MIP / MIP Datasheet	
Título / Title	Course Unit Program 'SEMINÁRIO DE METODOLOGIA E TÉCNICAS DE INVESTIGAÇÃO': Academic Year 2025/2026
Autor / Author	Profª Doutora Arqtª HELENA CRISTINA CAEIRO BOTELHO
Classificação / Classification	-
Descritores / Descriptors	-
Colaborador(es) / Colaborator(s	-
Data Hora / Date Time	
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Estatuto de utilização / Usage	Acesso público / Public Access
Relação / Relation	Version 1,0

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