

**Study program: Geoinformation Technologies****Qualification: PhD**

<b>General Information</b>			
<b>University</b>	Armenian National Agrarian University (ANAU)		
<b>Course title</b>	<b>Research Communication and Ethics</b>		
<b>The responsible lecturer</b>	Associate Professor Naira Aloyan Email: <a href="mailto:nairaloyan@gmail.com">nairaloyan@gmail.com</a> , <a href="mailto:aloyannaira@yahoo.com">aloyannaira@yahoo.com</a> Associate Professor Arusyak Gharibyan <a href="mailto:ar.a.ghyan@gmail.com">ar.a.ghyan@gmail.com</a>		
<b>Course type</b>	Compulsory		
<b>Course Goal</b>	The aim of the course is to maintain the general and basic principles of the researcher's moral image and professional position during professional research activities, as a basic prerequisite for conducting ethical practices.		
<b>Prerequisites and co-requisites (if applicable):</b>	Professional and social behavior, principles of ethics, canons of ethics, norms of ethics		
<b>Duration and ECTS Credits</b>	<b>In credits (ECTS)</b>	<b>In hours</b>	<b>In semester</b>
	3	90 (24 auditorium + 66 individual)	Spring
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrate skills in not harming people, materials, and self related to research at all stages of research implementation</li> <li>• guard/protect human participants, their dignity, rights and welfare.</li> <li>• make sure that research is directed in a manner that assists welfares of persons, groups and/or civilization as a whole</li> <li>• inspect particular research events and schemes for their ethical reliability, <i>considering issues such as the controlling risk, protection of privacy and the progression of informed consent.</i></li> <li>• possess the content, depth and directions of possible negative consequences in the absence of research ethics principles</li> <li>• master the principles of research design phase,</li> <li>• demonstrate consistency, responsibility, impartiality</li> </ul>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop research procedures, plan, program, scheme,</li> <li>• carry out tool localization,</li> <li>• ensure reliability, credibility</li> </ul>	
<b>Syllabus</b> <b>(List of lessons)</b>	<b>Module 1</b>	<b>Research design phase</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistency</li> <li>• Responsibility</li> <li>• Impartiality</li> </ul>
	<b>Module 2</b>	<b>Procedures</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing a research plan / program</li> <li>• Development of conceptual or operational schemes</li> <li>• Instrument localization, validity and reliability</li> </ul>
	<b>Assignment #1</b>	Each PhD student will submit a report on the research design phase within their topic
	<b>Module 3</b>	<b>Stages of research implementation</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistency</li> <li>• Honesty</li> <li>• Inclusivity</li> <li>• Person-centeredness</li> </ul>
	<b>Assignment #2</b>	Describe the content of consistency, honesty and inclusiveness, person-centeredness within one's own research topic
	<b>Module 4</b>	<b>Stages of research implementation</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anonymity, privacy</li> <li>• Security</li> <li>• Justice</li> <li>• Conscientiousness</li> </ul>
	<b>Assignment #3</b>	List and interpret the principles of research ethics during the research implementation phase
	<b>Module 5</b>	<b>Phase of development and analysis of research results</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anonymity and privacy</li> <li>• Transparency</li> <li>• Criticism</li> <li>• Honesty</li> </ul>	

	<b>Assignment #4</b>	Submit a report within individual topics based on the principles of anonymity and confidentiality, transparency, criticality and honesty
	<b>Module 6</b>	<b>Research results presentation/communication stage</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anonymity and/or privacy</li> <li>• Transparency and reportability</li> <li>• Procedures</li> </ul>
	<b>Assignment #5</b>	In the Research results's presentation/communication phase, submit a report based on own investigation
	<b>Module 7</b>	<b>The general principles of research ethics</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Honesty-</b> Being honest with the beneficiaries and respondents. Being honest about the findings and methodology of the research. Being honest with other direct and indirect stakeholders</li> <li>• <b>Integrity-</b> Ensuring honesty and sincerity.</li> <li>• <b>Objectivity-</b> Avoiding bias in experimental design, data analysis, data interpretation, peer review, and other aspects of research</li> <li>• <b>Non-discrimination-</b> Avoid discrimination on the basis of age, sex, race, ethnicity or other factors that are violation of human rights and are not related to the study.</li> </ul> <p><b>Carefulness and respect for intellectual property-</b> Be careful about the possible error and biases.</p> <p>Give credit to the intellectual property of others. Always paraphrase while referring to others article, writing. Never plagiarize.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Justice, Openness, Confidentiality, Protecting anonymity, Responsible publication, Non-</b></li> </ul>

		<b>maleficence/ Protecting the subjects, Beneficence, Respect for person/respondent, Informed consent etc.</b>
	<b>Assignment #6</b>	Submit a report within individual topics based on the main principles of research ethics.
	<b>Module 8</b>	<b>Research Communication: Effectiveness and Role</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lead to greater impact</li> <li>• providing benefits</li> <li>• making a contribution to wider society</li> </ul>
	<b>Assignment #7</b>	Each PhD student will submit a report on disseminating research.
<b>Short description</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research ethics principles, procedures</li> <li>• Research design phase</li> <li>• Stage of research implementation</li> <li>• Stage of analysis and processing of research results</li> <li>• Stage of presentation and communication of research results</li> </ul>
<b>Recommended textbooks and links (in order of relevance):</b>		<p>Required text and materials</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Martyn Hammersley, Anna Traianou(2012) Ethicsin Qualitative Research: Controversies and Contexts</li> <li>2. Dr Melanie Mauthner, Maxine Birch, Julie Jessop, Tina Miller (2002) Ethics in Qualitative Research</li> <li>3. Isabella Paoletti, Maria Isabel Tomas, Fernanda Menendez (Eds.) (2013) Practices of Ethics: An Empirical Approach to Ethics in Social Sciences Research</li> <li>4. Ethics and Social Research, S. Ali and M. Kelly (Chapter 5 in Researching Society and Culture, 2004)</li> <li>5. Sana Loue (2000) Textbook of Research Ethics: Theory and Practice</li> </ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Joan Cassell (auth.), Joan E.Sieber (eds.) (1982) <i>The Ethics of Social Research: Fieldwork, Regulation, and Publication</i>, Springer-Verlag New York</li> <li>7. Priscilla Alderson &amp; Virginia Morrow (2020) <i>The Ethics of Research with Children and Young People: A Practical Handbook</i></li> <li>8. Farina Madita Dobrick, Jana Fischer, Lutz M. Hagen (eds.) (2018) <i>Research Ethics in the Digital Age: Ethics for the Social Sciences and Humanities in Times of Mediatization and Digitization</i> 16. <i>Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans</i>, 2018</li> <li>9. <i>Research Ethics Handbook: Philosophy, History and Theory</i>, Brunel University London</li> <li>10. <i>Research Ethics Code and Procedures</i> (The University of Northampton)</li> <li>11. <i>Guidelines for Research Ethics in The Social Sciences, Law and The Humanities</i></li> <li>12. Schenk, Katie D. and Jan Williamson. (2005) “Ethical Approaches to Gathering</li> <li>13. Information from Children and Adolescents in International Settings: Guidelines and</li> <li>14. Resources.” Washington, DC: Population Council</li> <li>15. Этические принципы при проведении научно-исследовательских работ и публикации результатов.</li> </ol> <p>Links for the assessments and learning</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Research Ethics Guidebook: a resource for social scientists</li> <li>2. Research Ethics: A Handbook of Principles and Procedures</li> <li>3. Data protection policy</li> <li>4. Ethics Education Library</li> </ol>
<p><b>Assessment methods and criteria</b></p>	<p>Final exam with 100% and 20-point grade.</p> <p>To successfully complete this course, students must achieve a passing grade of 50% or higher on the overall course and on the mandatory final project (individual work). Under final project students should develop a research proposal.</p>

<b>Evaluation factors (%) and their actual score on a 100-point scale</b>		
<b>№</b>	<b>Factor:</b>	<b>%</b>
1	Attendance	15
2	Individual work	40
3	Final exam	45

**Course evaluation scale according to the ECTS evaluation system**

<b>Evaluation</b>	<b>Accumulated points (%)</b>	<b>ECTS/ATC Grade</b>	<b>20 point scale</b>	<b>ANAU Grade</b>
Pass	90-100	A	18-20	5
	80-89	B	16-17	4
	70-79	C	14-15	4
	60-69	D	11-13	3
	50-59	E	8-10	3
Fail	0-49	F/FX*	0-7	2