

## SYLLABUS

<b>Course Name / Code</b>	CIR 224 Research Methods in Social Sciences
<b>Instructor</b>	Dr. Elif Yıldırım
<b>E- Mail</b>	elif.sak@yalova.edu.tr
<b>Office Hours</b>	Friday-14.00-17.00

### Aim of the Course

The course aims to prepare the students to carry out the various steps of a traditional research design in IR field. In that respect, the course begins with how to choose a general topic, how to develop an initial question, what dependent and independent variables are, and how to refine the question. Among other important parts of research, this course also covers the literature review in international relations, describing what scholarly sources are, why students should use them, how to find them, and how to organize them. The instructor discusses methodology that covers how students can operationalize and measure variables via introducing mostly the qualitative research methods. Finally, regarding the analysis and writing of the data gathered in the research, the students are guided to practice endnote, footnote and citation techniques.

### Learning Outputs

Students will be able to:

- develop an initial question, what dependent and independent variables are, and how to refine the question.
- describe what scholarly sources are, how to find them and how to organize them
- operationalize and measure variables via introducing mostly the qualitative research methods

### Weekly Course Schedule

Week	Topic
1	Introduction to the course
2	Topic Selection and Question Development
3	Scholarly Literature and the Literature Review
4	Project Definition and Systematic Investigation
5	Analysis and Writing

	An Overview of the Writing Process Writing Each Section of Your Research Paper
6	The Abstract
7	The Introduction
8	<b>MID-TERM EXAM</b>
9	The Literature Review
10	The Research Design (Methodology)
11	The Case Presentation, Analysis, and Discussion of Findings
12	The Conclusion
13	The Bibliography or Reference List
14	Presentation
15	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>

### Evaluation Methods and Tools

Examinations will cover material presented in class and in the textbook. Unless announced otherwise, there will be a midterm examination and a final.

A summary of the grading follows:

- **Midterm: 40% - Final Exam: 60%**

### Course Materials

**Main Textbook:** Roselle, L,& Spray, S., *Research and Writing in International Relations*, 2002, Pearson.

### Method

The instructor may use lectures, comparisons, and case studies from textbooks and visual materials, too.

### Class Participation

Students are encouraged to ask questions to clarify understanding and to discuss and debate the theories, principles, and concepts from the text, case studies, and lectures. Students will be expected to participate in class and will be called upon on a regular basis.

### Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty will NOT be tolerated. Any student found to be involved in any verifiable incident of academic dishonesty (copying, cheating, plagiarizing, etc.) will receive a grade of “F” for the class.

### Course Adjustments and Changes

The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course. The professor reserves the right to make periodic changes to the syllabus, including: assignments, case studies, time table, examinations, etc., in order to accommodate the needs of the class as a whole and fulfill the goals of the course.

### Recommended Books

- Winkler, A., & McCuen-Metherell, J. R. (2011). *Writing the research paper: A handbook*. Nelson Education.
- American Psychological Association. (2012). *APA style guide to electronic references*. American Psychological Association, Washington DC.
- Nahmias-Wolinsky, Y. (2004). *Models, numbers, and cases: methods for studying international relations*. University of Michigan Press.
- Becker, H. S. (2008). *Writing for social scientists: How to start and finish your thesis, book, or article*. University of Chicago Press.
- Bhattacharjee, A. (2012). *Social science research: Principles, methods, and practices*.