



DIRECTED STUDY

Course code	<i>MNG225</i>
Course title	<i>Directed Study</i>
Type of course	<i>Elective</i>
Department	<i>Undergraduate studies</i>
Year of study	<i>3rd or 4th</i>
Semester	<i>Autumn, Spring</i>
ECTS	<i>6</i>
Study form	<i>Full-time</i>

Course description

A directed study is a research/project based course supervised by a faculty member, resulting in a report which is a written document. It offers the student an opportunity to conduct research in a specific area suggested by and under the guidance of a faculty member. The subject matter of the course may relate to the student's research interests as well as the faculty member's area of expertise and research inquiry.

The course is designed for both basic and applied research.

To enroll to the course, the average grade of the student must not be lower than 8.

A student may not do more than one directed study per studies period.

Aims of the course

This course aims to provide the student with a supervised experience that involves gaining special expertise in a certain research area, to analyse in-depth a topic in economics, politics, management or finance that is only broadly covered in the general curriculum.

Course learning outcomes (CLO)	Study methods	Evaluation methods
CLO1. To develop academic written communication skills	Consultations, self-study	Final report
CLO2. To develop research methods and independent study skills, which allow for the in-depth learning of self-selected topics within the area of study	Consultations, self-study	Final report
CLO3. To develop and practice creative thinking and creative problem-solving skills with a variety of complex topics within an area of study in order to generate original ideas and products	Consultations, self-study, research	Final report

Teaching and learning methods

Consultation and guidelines on report writing, students' self-study, guided research. A student and a supervising faculty member should meet at least 2 times per semester. As there is a variety of topics of research where directed study could be implemented, thus each report to a certain extent is individual.

Cheating prevention

ISM regulations on academic ethics, including cheating (see, ISM Regulation of Studies) are fully applied in the course during the entire semester exam session and retake period.



Individual work and assessment

Assessment type	Weight, %
Final report	100
Total:	100

A student prepares a written report of semester activities according to the requirements of a supervisor. The overall assessment of the course will be based on the evaluation of the final report carried out by the supervisor. Final report submission deadline is the last day of a semester. The grade assessment must be performed in 10 calendar days after submission of the report. Final report grade is considered to be an exam grade.

Tasks of a directed study are directly or closely related to research activities may include one of the following:

- Literature review
- Discussing key selected issues in the literature
- Measurement instruments review
- Data collection method and process description
- Data analysis and reporting results
- Other

During a first week of a semester students must fill the form indicating their topics/areas of interest (see table 1 for the topics in economics and finance). During the second week of the semester Department Chairs invite the students to introduce the course of a Directed Study as well as research topics and tasks. During a third week of a semester Department Chairs assign Directed Study supervisors to students.

A report should follow APA formatting standard. Report’s volume should amount at least 4000 words (from 10 up to 25 pages). The task defined by a researcher might result in larger volumes of text that are needed to perform a specific research, but are not necessarily included in the report.

The structure of the report:

- Title page
- Introduction (indicating the background, aim and method)
- Core report content
- Conclusions
- Literature list

In case of a negative final grade, student is allowed to retake the exam. The retake will consist of a written report (as described above). This written report must be submitted not later than the last day allowed for retakes; the weight of the retake is 100%. Retake reports cannot be rewritten.

Table 1. The list of problem areas and subjects

MANAGEMENT	
Research area	Subject of research
Marketing and Consumer Behavior	Consumer attitudes and decision making, International markets and consumers, Sustainable and healthy consumption, Social networks and e-marketing
Organizational Behavior and Human Resources Management	Sustainable human resources and diversity management, Leadership and organizational development, Innovations in OB&HRM, Education and development
Strategy	Strategy and business innovations, Internationalization Micro foundations of business strategy
ECONOMICS AND POLITICS	
Research area	Subject of research
Macroeconomic analysis	Fiscal policy, Monetary policy, Public finance, Social insurance Inflation, GDP, Current account deficit, other macroeconomic indicators International trade, Globalization
Microeconomic analysis	Solving company-specific problem Value adding strategies, Evaluating Investment projects Profit maximization, Cost analysis, Production analysis
Financial markets and institutions	Banking, Credit rating, Investment management Derivative financial instruments, Risk management, Stock markets Currency markets, Money and capital markets, Real estate property markets
Other	To be specified