**Course Instructor: Dr Vassilis Arapoglou**

**Basic principles of social research**

The purpose of this introductory course is to provide students with a broader understanding of the design and implementation of social research, but also with specialized knowledge for the empirical investigation of social transformations and social inequalities and divisions in distinct historical and geographical contexts. The course helps students to learn the methodological approaches and principles applied in designing and conducting social research. Initially, the different methodological and evaluative assumptions that guide the qualitative and quantitative approach are discussed. Then, basic types and designs of qualitative, quantitative and mixed method research are presented. Emphasis is placed on the ways that theory informs research objectives and questions within a specific social context. The basic principles for research design and management of its stages are presented. Ethical and political dimensions of social research are highlighted are related dilemmas discussed.

Evaluation:

A. 30% Evaluation of participation (formal and substantive) in class. B. 70% submission of an essay.