



Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań

Doctoral School of Languages and Literatures



Scientific databases

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Type of classes	workshops
Language of instruction	English
The number of hours + form of passing classes	15 hours / credit in the form of a grade
Course objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The development of information competence, with emphasis on the effective retrieval of scientific information and its selection based on critical evaluation. 2. Presentation of different types of scientific databases, knowledge bases and knowledge-management systems. 3. Teaching how to search for information, verify it and reconcile information derived from different sources. 4. Teaching how to obtain and organise information relevant to a particular research problem. 5. Making the participants aware of the legal and ethical aspects of accessing and using scientific information.
Course contents	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The notions of information competence and information literacy, the necessary skills and capabilities necessary. 2. The importance of choosing keywords and search terms, familiarity with appropriate terminology, competent selection, the ability to narrowing down a search, and the assessment of the significance and credibility of search results. 3. The importance of scientific knowledge and free access to sound information in social life and in the public dissemination of science; critical thinking as the basis of a rational approach to reality. 4. The dynamic character of scientific knowledge: information obsolescence due to the emergence and accumulation of more relevant up-to-date knowledge; the constant need to update and supplement one's competence. 5. The most frequently used scientific databases (available in open access or as the University's electronic resources), search engines and knowledge management systems. 6. The Internet as a knowledge base. 7. Non-conventional methods of collecting scientific information

	<p>(informal sources, social services, the academic blogosphere).</p> <p>8. Knowledge bases created collectively by their users; the advantages of sharing one's own research output publicly.</p> <p>9. Applying search strategies in practice: collecting information for a given research task, data collection, searching for publications, and bibliography management.</p> <p>10. The legal and ethical aspects of accessing and using scientific information.</p>
Prerequisites	English language proficiency at B-2 level; research experience such as can be expected of Doctoral School students; elementary skills in using electronic databases.
Learning outcomes	
Verification methods:	
<p>In terms of knowledge: A person who has completed this course knows and understands:</p> <p>rules for the dissemination of results of scientific activities, traditional methods and open access [E_W03];</p> <p>basic principles for knowledge transfer to the economic and social spheres and for the commercialisation of research results [E_W06]</p>	<p>assessing the student's work and active participation in class</p>
<p>In terms of skills: A person who has completed this course is able to:</p> <p>effectively retrieve information related to scientific activity from various sources, including from sources in foreign languages, and to properly select, critically analyse and interpret this information; furthermore, he/she is able to assess its relevance for scientific development [E_U02];</p> <p>present the results of his/her research and to initiate and conduct scientific and popular science discussions in Polish and foreign languages [E_U06]</p>	<p>assessing the student's work and active participation in class</p>
<p>In terms of social competences: A person who has completed this course is prepared to:</p> <p>fulfilling social obligations as a researcher; initiating actions in favour of the public interest, <i>inter alia</i>, through appropriate dissemination of scientific achievements in society. Furthermore, he/she is ready to take actions leading to the development of civil society based on knowledge [E_K03];</p>	<p>assessing the student's work and active participation in class</p>
Literature	No conventional bibliography is required, given the character of the course.
Additional information	The purpose of the workshops is teaching information skills, which is why special emphasis will be placed on practical familiarity with search techniques and information assessment in the context of using electronic databases and Internet resources. The teacher will introduce particular topics of the course content. After discussing them in class, the participants will carry out mini-projects to develop their information competence.

