

Course code	Course title	Responsible lecturer
FoMU-523	Research planning and scientific writing	
Contents and goals of qualification	<p>Course contents:</p> <p>Introduction to nature of scientific enquiry, concepts of causation, literature review and the research question; use of the library and the internet for literature search. Conceptualization and measurement; data collection instruments, validity, research study designs, threats to validity; selection of study subjects and size. Planning for data collection, management and analysis. Research ethics; research project management; the research proposal; characteristics of empirical research, the analysis of data graphically and statistically. Interpretation of research results, report writing and presentation. Evaluation of research performance. Art of scientific writing, common mistakes in scientific writing, good practices in scientific writing</p> <p><u>Goals of qualification:</u></p> <p>Students will elaboration of a research plan for their master's thesis, typically in the area of management of forest resources.</p> <p>The students are able to recognize the quality of research plans and they can critically think within an academic discipline and they are able to sound argumentation. They can apply principles for the appropriate development of research projects including critical discussion of literature, problem identification, formulation of hypotheses and research questions, data requirements and selection of methods. They reveal independent ability for learning as a basis for life-long learning and are in a position to creatively solve problems by systematic research. In this they show the necessary competencies for scientific professional life and</p>	

	the key qualifications as well the ability to work independently and to work in the team
Modes of teaching and learning	The course comprises: 1 hr/wk Lecture and 3 hrs/wk practical (exercise, and independent studies)
Applicability	Compulsory
Credits and assessment	2 (1+3) Credit hour; Research proposal (50%), presentation and oral defense of proposal (40%), peer review reports (10%)
Text books	Creswell JW 2009. Research design: qualitative, quantitative and mixed approaches. Sage publishing, London. Recent peer reviewed journal papers published in the Ethiopian context shall be used for seminars