Educational Establishment
"Belarusian State University of Culture and Arts"

APPROVED
Vice-rector for Academic Affairs of
Educational Establishment "Belarusian
State University of Culture and Arts"
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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES IN CULTURAL RESEARCHES

The syllabus of the academic discipline for the specialty
for advanced higher education 7-06-0314-02 Culturology

2023

The syllabus is completed in accordance with the educational standard of higher education for the speciality of advanced higher education 7-06-0314-02 Culturology, approved by Resolution of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus No. 182, June 29, 2023, and the curriculum for the specialty of advanced higher education 7-06-0314-02 Culturology, reg. № 7-06-03-03ин/23уч., February 15, 2023.

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RECOMMENDED TO APPROVAL BY:

Department of Information Technologies in Culture of the Educational Establishment «Belarusian State University of Culture and Arts» (minutes №1 dated September, 20, 2023);

Presidium of the Academic and Methodological Council of the Educational Establishment “Belarusian State University of Culture and Arts” (minutes No. 1 dated October 25, 2023).

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The syllabus of the academic discipline «Information Technologies in Cultural Researches» is designed for foreign students who get education in English and to assimilate the curriculum of the speciality of advanced higher education 7-06-0314-02 Culturology. The syllabus of the academic discipline is designed to develop knowledge and skills of scientific, pedagogical and research work as well as for the attainment of a master's degree.

Modern standards of cultural education require students' ability and skills to analyze the evolutionary processes of the society's cultural life, the basic laws and variations of its development. The course «Information technologies in Cultural Studies» is designed to teach master's students to conduct cultural studies on their own to investigate the culture and its structure on empirical level.

In accordance with the educational standard of higher education for the speciality of advanced higher education 7-06-0314-02 Culturology the content of the academic discipline Information Technologies in Cultural Researches» is aimed at the formation of the following universal competence:

UC-2. Solve research and innovation problems based on the use of information and communication technologies;

and the following advanced professional competence:

APC-5. Apply Information Technologies in Cultural Researches.

the academic discipline «Information Technologies in Cultural Researches» is related to the discipline «Organizing and conducting scientific research», which is included in the module «Research work».

The purpose of the academic discipline is to train students to organize the cultural studies, prepare research programs, collect and process statistical data, summarize and analyze research results, formulate conclusions and recommendations on cultural policy.

Tasks of academic discipline:

– formation of the methodological base of a cultural specialist,

– mastering the methods of organizing and conducting sociocultural studies;

– developing skills to analyze data, draw conclusions and formulate recommendations on cultural policy implementation.

After completing the discipline, students should know:

– methods of cultural researches;

– the main sociocultural problems of society, ways and technological means of their solution.

to be able to:

– investigate sociocultural processes;

– implement cultural policy strategies developed on cultural analysis basis.

use and apply:

– methods of scientific cultural researches;

– basic skills and methods for society sociocultural situation assessment;

– skills of identifying the modern society sociocultural problems;

– system of basic cultural concepts and directions.

The content of the discipline includes: general characteristics of social and cultural studies (their types), methods and approaches of sociocultural studies organization and conducting sociocultural researches, approaches for developing research programs, results processing, research conclusions generalization and presentation, techniques for developing recommendations and their implementing in practice.

Successful learning of the academic discipline «Information Technologies in Cultural Researches» requires a student to know the basis of psychology, pedagogy and sociology.

The curriculum of the discipline «Information Technologies in Cultural Researches» provides 94 hours, distributed in 52 academic hours, which include 20 hours of lectures, 20 hours of practical classes, 12 hours of labs, and 42 hours for self-preparation.

The recommended form of students' knowledge control is a credit-based system.

THE COURSE CONTENT

Topic 1. Introduction. Cultural and Sociocultural Studies: Research Field, Theoretical and Methodological Foundations

Key words: cultural studies, sociocultural field, problem research field, methodological bases.

Research field of the cultural and sociocultural studies. Methodology as a logical and philosophical basis of research. Methodological principles of research in the socio-cultural field.

Object and subject of cultural studies. Culture as a specific object and subject of research. Society as an object of socio-cultural research. The Internet content as an object of the cultural research.

Topic 2. Technologies of Cultural and Sociocultural Dimensions

Key words: cultural dimensions, parameters of the dimensions model, quantitative assessments, cultural effectiveness.

Phenomenon of cultural dimensions. Typology of Hofstede's cultural dimensions. Parameters of Hofstede's model: Individualism (IDV), Masculinity (MAS), uncertainty avoidance (UAI), long-term orientation (LTO), assumption (or indulgence). Modern models of cultural metrics and their parameters. Problems of quantitative assessment in the cultural field. Assessment approaches of cultural effectiveness. Information technology as a mean to develop metrics and evaluation of cultural effectiveness.

Topic 3. Information Technology Approaches to Culture and Cultural Processes Studies

Keywords: cultural studies methods, quantitative and qualitative methods, survey methods, statistical analysis.

Methods of cultural studies. General approaches: dialectical, systemic, structural-functional, comparative, typological. Specific approaches: anthropological, semiotic, hermeneutic, biographical, historical, diachronic, synchronic, archaeological, psychological.

Applying software for quantitative and qualitative statistical analysis to socio-cultural studies. Methodological problems of applying quantitative methods in cultural studies. Survey methods in quantitative studies (interviews, questionnaires, online surveys) and instrumental means of their arrangement. Interpreting the results of quantitative research problem. Internet as a mean of research the specifying data. Statistical analysis of documents by means of information technology: quantitative analytical-documentary approach.

Topic 4. Information Technologies in Development of Cultural Research Plan: steps, principles, methods

Keywords: research topic, object, subject, identification research purpose, problem setting, research hypothesis, internet sources.

Determining the research direction and topics. Study of the bibliographic and other information sources through the Internet. Evaluation of the research topic relevance based on the analysis of the Internet sources. Identification of the research question: contradiction principle. Object and subject of the research: principles of research accessibility. Detecting the purpose and research objectives relevance through the analysis of the Internet sources. Use of on-line resources (electronic Encyclopedias, libraries, terminology dictionaries, websites professional orientation) for basic concept clarification and interpretation: identification of correlation with the real events; evaluation of the degree to which the concept is reflected in the real world; identification of the scientific and cultural significance of the phenomena.

Formulation of the research hypothesis: types of hypotheses (hypotheses assumptions, hypotheses-basis, hypotheses-consequences, descriptive, explanatory, etc.)

Topic 5. Processing of the Results of Cultural Research

Key words: statistical experiment, random value, statistical models, statistical analysis software.

Probability theory and applied statistics. Statistical experiment and representation of experimental data. The statistical population and random value realization. Basic statistical models. Dispersion estimation, correlation analysis, linear regression analysis. Explanation and interpretation of the cultural study results. Information technology means for applied statistics problems solving. Capabilities of statistical analysis software and spreadsheets.

Topic 6. The Internet as a Modern Medium of Receiving, Disseminating and Exchanging Research Information

Key words: statistical data, cloud technologies, World Values Survey Database.

Statistical data in the Internet. The use of cloud technologies in cultural studies. Google's statistical data processing capabilities. Social networks as a mean of obtaining statistical data. Social networks opportunities in statistical data processing. Cartographic analysis. World Values Survey Database.

Topic 7. Visualization and Presentation of Research Findings

Key words: scientific report, research documentation, multimedia presentation of research results data.

Structure of the scientific report. Preparation and presentation of the research report and research documentation.

Multimedia presentation of research results. Scientific and educational movie-videos. Infographics. Internet as a mean to present the scientific research results.

EDUCATIONAL AND METHODICAL CHART OF THE ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE

№ of academic discipline sections	Name of academic discipline sections	Total	Classroom hours			Guided individual work	Assessment form
			Lectures	Labs	Practical classes		
1.	Introduction. Cultural and Sociocultural Studies: Research Field, Theoretical and Methodological Foundations	2	2				
2.	Technologies of Cultural and Sociocultural Dimensions	8	2		2	4	Research project
3.	Information Technology Approaches to Culture and Cultural Processes Studies	4	2		2		
4.	Information Technologies in Development of Cultural Research Plan: steps, principles, methods	6			2	4	Report
5.	Processing of the Results of Cultural Research	16	2	6	4	4	Research project
6.	The Internet as a Modern Medium of Receiving, Disseminating and Exchanging Research Information	8		4		4	Paper
7.	Visualization and Presentation of Research Findings	8		2	2	4	Report
	TOTAL…	52	8	12	12	20	

INFORMATION-METHODICAL PART

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Recommended Assessment Means

It is recommended to use the project work, scientific report and presentation of research results to assess the students' academic achievements level and to identify its compliance with the requirements of the educational standard. All activities should include the development, planning and implementation of cultural research as well as creative and heuristic issues and prognostic conclusions.

Guidelines for Organizing and Carrying out Individual Work on Discipline

Students' individual work is aimed at enriching their skills in the discipline "Information Technologies in Cultural Researches" beyond the in-class activity. The purpose of students' individual work is to facilitate the full assimilation of the discipline content through the systematization, planning and control of their individual activities. The teacher gives assignments for individual work and regularly checks them.

According to the content, goals and objectives of the discipline " Information Technologies in Cultural Researches" students are expected to carry out the following types of individual work: collection and analysis of cultural data, formulation of conclusions and forecasts, development of the research report, development and presentation of research results.

Criteria for Evaluating Students' Knowledge and Skills Level

To assess students’ achievements it is recommended to use the following diagnostic tools:

– questioning students during classroom discussions;

– testing selected topics of discipline;

– defense of individual tasks performed during classes;

– presentation of the individual work and discussion on the obtained research results;

– defense of individual project;

– student's participation at the conference with research results presentation;

– passing the final test in discipline.