

Valid for 2022-23-24.HS

Module name: Research Plan	
Module Code	n.MA.RE.RePI.23HS
Module Description	Students develop their own research topic, perform a literature review, develop research questions / hypotheses, and choose a research design for their Master's thesis.
Programme and Specialisation	Master of Science in Real Estate & Facility Management (MSc REFM)
Legal Framework	Academic Regulations for the Master's Programme MSc REFM dated 01.08.2024, Appendix to the Academic Regulations for the Master's Programme, first adopted on 30.08.2011
Module Category	Module Type: Compulsory
ECTS	5
Organisational Unit	N Institute for Facility Management (IFM)
Module Coordinator	Dr. Clara Weber (weec)
Deputy Module Coordinator	Prof. Dr. Thorsten Merkle (mekk)
Prerequisite Knowledge	Applied Research Methods, Real Estate Modelling and Forecasting
Contribution to Programme Learning Goals (Affected by Module)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Specialised expertise</li> <li>■ Methodological skills</li> <li>■ Interpersonal skills</li> <li>■ Self-competence</li> </ul>
Contribution to Programme Learning Objectives	<p>Specialised expertise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Understanding &amp; knowledge of theory &amp; practice-oriented content</li> <li>■ Application, analysis, and linking of theory &amp; practice-oriented content</li> <li>■ Evaluation of theory &amp; practice-oriented content</li> </ul> <p>Methodological competence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Problem solving &amp; critical thinking</li> <li>■ Scientific methods</li> <li>■ Working methods, techniques &amp; procedures</li> <li>■ Information literacy</li> <li>■ Creativity &amp; innovation</li> </ul> <p>Social competence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Written communication</li> <li>■ Oral communication</li> <li>■ Interculturalism &amp; empathy</li> </ul> <p>Self-competence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Self-management &amp; self-reflection</li> <li>■ Ethical &amp; social responsibility</li> <li>■ Learning &amp; transformation</li> </ul>
Module Learning Objectives	<p>Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ can formulate a research topic for their Master's thesis, provide an adequate theoretical foundation for the research topic, develop suitable research questions and hypotheses, and choose a research design.</li> <li>■ can proactively plan the individual research stages for their Master's thesis.</li> <li>■ are generally able to apply quantitative methods to answer scientific questions using empirical data.</li> <li>■ are able to report on quantitative research findings in accordance with a prescribed writing style (APA).</li> </ul>
Module Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Determining an appropriate organisational framework for the Master's thesis.</li> <li>■ Support while devising a topic, determining the scope of the investigation, developing research questions, finding a methodological approach, and performing a literature review.</li> <li>■ Support in planning the individual stages of the research process under the guidance of the Master's thesis supervisors.</li> <li>■ Practical work: Students develop their own research topic, perform a literature review, develop a research question/hypothesis and choose a research design for their Master's thesis. A research plan is also drafted in preparation for the Master's thesis.</li> <li>■ Students specialising in "Economics &amp; Finance" and "Sustainability &amp; Digitalisation" must prepare their Research Plan in a field related to their area of study.</li> </ul>

Links to Other Modules	The content of this module is linked to the following modules:  Master's Thesis		
Methods of Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Problem-based learning</li><li>■ Research-based learning</li><li>■ Literature review</li></ul>	<b>Social Settings Used</b>	
Digital Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Reader / script</li><li>■ Teaching videos</li><li>■ Practice and Application Exercises (with answers)</li><li>■ Livestream lectures (possibly)</li></ul>		
Type of Instruction	<b>Classroom Instruction</b>	<b>Guided Self-Study</b>	<b>Autonomous Self-Study</b>
Lecture	-	-	
Practical work	8 h	-	
Project work	-	8 h	
Seminar	-	-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 h</b>	<b>8 h</b>	<b>134 h</b>
Double teaching may occur. Double teaching is not included in the time planning.			
Performance Assessment For the following performance assessments, resubmission, respectively repeat exam, is offered in accordance with § 12 and § 12a of the study regulations for the Master's degree programme in Real Estate & Facility Management at the Zurich University of Applied Sciences.			
<b>End-of-module exam</b>	<b>Form</b>	<b>Length (min.)</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
-	-	-	-
<b>Permitted resources</b>	-	-	
<b>Others</b>	<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Length (min.)</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
Research plan	Written individual work (predicate)	-	100.00%
Classroom Attendance Requirement	Mandatory attendance: none but recommended.		
Language of Instruction/Examination	English. The examination can be held in German or in English.		
Compulsory Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Berg, B., &amp; Lune, H. (2012). Qualitative research methods for social sciences. Pearson.</li><li>■ Blaikie, N. (2010). Designing social research. The Logic of Anticipation. Polity.</li><li>■ Döring, N., &amp; Bortz, J. (2016). Forschungsmethoden und Evaluation in den Sozial- und Humanwissenschaften. Springer.</li><li>■ Field, A. (2009). Discovering Statistics Using SPSS (3rd. ed.). Sage.</li><li>■ Kubinger, K. D., Rasch, D., &amp; Yanagida, T. (2011). Statistik in der Psychologie: vom Einführungskurs bis zur Dissertation. Hogrefe.</li><li>■ Sekaran, U., &amp; R. Bougie (2009). Research methods for business. Wiley.</li></ul>		
Recommended Reading	See the provided reading list		
Comments	Adjustments to the module or to the assessments may occur at short notice.		