

Title of BIP: Scientific methodology in thesis writing in health sciences

General information
Objectives and Description: As described during the Unita meetings in Turin in March and in November 2023 the aim of this BIP is to nurture a common basis of scientific methodology fundamental elements for students in health sciences of bachelor, master, single cycle Master's degree and PhD students, in order to facilitate an easier mobility for research thesis. Secondary aim is to facilitate the growth of a community of mentors and mentees among the UNITA alliance, beyond the national and disciplinary borders
Methods and outcomes: The students will be exposed at home University to preparatory disciplines according to local timetables, but during the 20 days ahead of the physical mobility, the teachers involved will provide didactic material according to international standard courses for scientific methodology assessment in different disciplines. According to this preliminary round of interest generating the in-presence lectures will be deepened in the topics with higher request. The course material will be in any case explained in the classes, more examples will be provided in the fields of interest. During the 4 months after the in-presence activity the faculty will be interacting both with students and teachers involved at home in the thesis preparation in order to reach the outcome of a scientifically sound description of materials and methods, eventually in view of a publication on a scientific journal
Field of Education: scientific methodology, evidence-based approach, health sciences
Target audience / Participants profile: Candidates to thesis writing in health sciences (bachelor, master, single cycle Master's degree and PhD students)
No of ECTS issued: 3
Language of instruction and requirements: English language B1
Dates for physical activity: 1st – 5th October 2026
Location of physical activity: Brescia (IT)
Dates for virtual component: - 22.09.2026 (informal meeting, from 6 PM to 8 PM C.E.T.)

- 28.09.2026 (first mandatory date of virtual component from 6 PM to 8 PM C.E.T.)
- 20.10.2026 (second mandatory date of virtual component from 6 PM to 8 PM C.E.T.)

Virtual Component Description:

All the interested students will be offered to take part in the lectures that the organizing board teachers regularly offer in their home University, without any consideration of the positioning in the selection procedure, but of course prioritizing the better qualified students. In this way the organizing board will gain an harmonization through a multivocal approach to the thesis writing in our Universities. At the same time the students will be offered to find mentors in specific fields in other UNITA universities and beyond. The exercise during the first online part will be concentrated on the material already collected and examined by candidates and how they felt any lack of a scientific approach in thesis related research. Typically the lack of enough mentors for the early stage of the research installing is ubiquitous and can be coped with by sharing research support and lectures. This approach will also be the basis for the second part of online part: direct contact with mentors in presence in Brescia will allow a one-to-one relationship to enhance the research planning and thesis writing. We intend to collect the feedback of the graduating students to increase the support in the next editions of the BIP.

Organizing Board

Receiving/Host university:

name of university, country (name of coordinator and email) University of Brescia, Italy (Corrado Paganelli corrado.paganelli@unibs.it)

Sending/Partner universities:

P1. name of university, country (name of coordinator and email) University of Zaragoza (Montserrat Martínez Pineda interfccsd@unizar.es)

P2. name of university, country (name of coordinator and email) Politecnico de Guarda (André Ricardo T. S. Araújo Pereira andrearaujo@ipg.pt)

P3. name of university, country (name of coordinator and email) Universitatea Transilvania din Brasov (Mihaela Badea mihaela.badea@unitbv.ro)

Detailed programme

1. Planned activities during virtual component:

Presentation of the course: classification of methodology already in use or proposed by the candidate according to statistical and publication descriptors (from case report to metanalysis of literature and experiments). Course description and precourse evaluation of candidates. Didactic material customization to language and previous experience of candidates

2. Planned activities during physical component:

1st day: identifying the research topic

2nd day: literature search – focusing the research topic

3rd day: AI – value of the study

4th day: research methodology & study design

5th day: draft of the research protocol

Application procedure

Students send the applications to their home university.

Home university nominates the students at UNIBS by **15th September 2026** through the form provided by unita.office@unibs.it .

Facilities provided to participants:

- One meal/ day.