

**Research Design with Idea Puzzle (1 ECTS)**

**Online course, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 | 10:00-14:00 h. (CET)**

**20 participants**



**Aims of the course**

The objective of this half-a-day online course is to help PhD students coherently align the theory, method, data, rhetoric, and authorship of a research proposal, article or thesis in the light of philosophy of science.

The course adopts a hands-on approach to the design and diagnosis of a research project with the Idea Puzzle software. In particular, the course will cover the following topics:

- Relation between epistemology, methodology, ontology, and axiology;
- Coherence between theory, method, data, rhetoric, and authorship;
- Empirical research as a system of 21 dilemmatic decisions.

After the course, participants will be able to: 1) acknowledge the relation between philosophy of science and research design; 2) coherently align the theory, method, data, rhetoric, and authorship of a research proposal, article or thesis with the Idea Puzzle software; and 3) diagnose the strengths and weaknesses of an empirical research project.

## Course syllabus

<p>Session 1 (2 hours)</p>	<p>Topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Theoretical focus of your research</li> <li>- Keywords</li> <li>- Streams of thought</li> <li>- Research gap</li> <li>- Research question or hypothesis</li> <li>- State of the science</li>   <li>- Methodological focus of your research</li> <li>- Philosophical stance</li> <li>- Research strategy</li> <li>- Data collection</li> <li>- Data analysis</li> <li>- Quality criteria</li> </ul>
<p>Session 2 (2 hours)</p>	<p>Topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Empirical focus of your research</li> <li>- Unit of analysis</li> <li>- Level of analysis</li> <li>- Nature of data</li> <li>- Origin of data</li> <li>- Sample</li>   <li>- Rhetorical focus of your research</li> <li>- Pathos</li> <li>- Logos</li> <li>- Ethos</li>   <li>- Authorial focus of your research</li> <li>- Wisdom</li> <li>- Trust</li> <li>- Time</li> </ul>

## Assessment

### *Assignment 1*

Five business days before the course, participants will deliver the first version of their individual research design created with the Idea Puzzle software in PDF format.

### *Attendance and participation*

Participants are required to attend all sessions and actively engage with the lecturer and peers during team work and individual presentations.

### *Assignment 2*

Five business days after the course, participants will deliver the final version of their individual research design created with the Idea Puzzle software in Word format. Ricardo Morais will provide each participant with 21 comments of personalised feedback (one per each of the 21 decisions of the Idea Puzzle software) on the same document.

## Prerequisites

Registration at [www.ideapuzzle.com](http://www.ideapuzzle.com) with an email ending with 'uc3m.es' to create research designs with the Idea Puzzle software. Internet connection with sound and video.

## Biographical note



[Ricardo Morais](#), married and father of three daughters, is Head of the Management Department at Católica Porto Business School, coordinator of the doctoral seminar "How to design your PhD" at the European Institute for Advanced Studies in Management (EIASM) in Brussels, CEO of Idea Puzzle, and alumni of HPI School of Design Thinking in Germany. He holds a PhD in Strategic Management from the University of Jyväskylä, Finland, having graduated in Management from the Faculty of Economics of the University of Porto. His research interests are interdisciplinary, including Philosophy of Science, Strategic Management, and Design Thinking. Since 2002, he has published more than 30 academic articles, chapters, and papers about these topics and lectured in 90 higher education institutions in 23 countries.

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## Testimonial

Davide Gotti, PhD Student, Electrical Engineering, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain

*Your course was very enlightening and I am using your tips to plan my actual research project, and more generally my PhD thesis, with deeper consciousness.*