

**SYLLABUS****Master Seminar****„Systematic Literature Reviews in Management Research“**

Summer Semester 2024

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Alessia Pisoni  
(University of Insubria, Italy)

Prof. Dr. Thomas Steger

**Concept**

Systematic Literature Reviews (SLRs) provide a comprehensive overview of literature related to a topic/theory and synthesize prior studies to strengthen the foundation of knowledge. SLRs are conducted for a variety of purposes. They include learning on a topic of interest, providing a theoretical background/framework, identifying research gaps and discussing future research directions. As such, SLRs may also serve as an early section of an academic thesis or dissertation.

SLRs are “systematic” in following a methodological approach during the literature review process. The seminar is going to provide students a “step-by-step” approach to design and execute a SLR process in the management domain. First of all, we will discuss about the key issues to consider while reading one or more academic contributions. By sub-dividing the SLR process into “steps” (e.g., distinct decisions), we will guide students through the research journey: from the research object to retrieving the relevant literature to be analysed, synthesized and reported. Specific research topics related to new venture creation and innovation management will be proposed to students and analysed in groups also with the help of in-class “guided” hands on sessions.

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- understand the key steps of a SLR process;
- conduct a SLR process (e.g., retrieve academic literature, identify the most relevant contributions, critically revise and synthesize the main findings);
- report and discuss the results of a SLR;
- learn how to implement a SLR as a piece of research in a broader work (thus enhancing the research rigor and quality of the Master’s thesis).

Moreover, the seminar should stimulate the students’ ability to work in teams and to deliver a structured analysis in a timely manner.

## Structure

Time/Place	Activity
Feb 26 – Apr 16 First come – first serve	<b>Enrolment via FLEXNOW</b> Erasmus students by email to: <a href="mailto:sekretariat.fo@ur.de">sekretariat.fo@ur.de</a> using the <a href="#">accreditation form</a>
April 18, 8 am – 12pm VG 0.14	<b>Introduction</b> Overview of the seminar Time schedule & course practicalities The anatomy of a paper: How to read academic contributions; “connecting the dots” (key issues to be considered while reading papers to conduct a SLR) The Systematic Literature Review (SLR) process (key steps): an overview
April 19, 8 am – 12pm VG 2.39	<b>Seminar meeting I:</b> The Systematic Literature Review (SLR) in Management research (main topics introduction about entrepreneurship and innovation management) SLR practical exercise: hands on session (groups formation and tasks assignment for in-class presentation)
April 22 and April 23 on appointment RW(L) 3.05	<b>Seminar meeting II:</b> Office hours: individual/group meetings about the final assignment
April 25, 8 am – 12pm VG 0.14	<b>Seminar meeting III:</b> Groupwork in-class presentation of SLR practical exercise Final assignment presentation and Q&A Concluding remarks
April 25, on appointment RW(L) 3.05	<b>Seminar meeting IV:</b> Office hours: individual/group meetings about the final paper Identification of the main topic, keywords selection, main database of records
April 26, 8 am – 12 pm VG 1.36	<b>Seminar meeting V:</b> Individual research proposal presentation and Q&A Concluding remarks
May 13	<b>Deadline to withdraw/de-register from the seminar</b>
May 7, 3 hours 9 am – 12 am via Zoom/Skype/MS Teams	<b>Team project consultations I:</b> Individual meetings about the final assignment

June 5, 3 hours 9 am – 12 am via Zoom/Skype/ MS Teams	<b>Team project consultations II:</b> Individual/group meetings about the final assignment
July 1, 3 hours 9 am – 12 am via Zoom/Skype/ MS Teams	<b>Team project consultations III:</b> Individual/group meetings about the final assignment
July 12, 8am – 12pm VG 1.36	<b>Team project presentations</b>
July 12, on appointment RW(L) 3.05	<b>Team project consultations IV:</b> Individual/group meetings about the final assignment
August 14, 12 p.m.	<b>Deadline to hand in team paper</b> by email to <a href="mailto:thomas.steger@wiwi.uni-regensburg.de">thomas.steger@wiwi.uni-regensburg.de</a> and to <a href="mailto:alessia.pisoni@uninsubria.it">alessia.pisoni@uninsubria.it</a>

### Assessment

The assessment for the seminar will take the form of a group project. You will be assigned to a small team of 2-3 students and together you will have to deliver various insights on a specific topic to demonstrate your understanding of the topic in conceptual and theoretical terms.

The assessment will have three components.

1. Each group will give a **formal presentation** of its topic to the whole class. The presentation should last no more than 20 minutes and will be followed by about 20 minutes of questioning and discussing. This part accounts for 20% of the final seminar mark.
2. Each group has to submit a **team paper**. The paper will be a maximum of 8,000 words long (not including references or appendices) and will be written as a collective piece of work. This part accounts for 70% of the final seminar mark.
3. The students' **team contribution** to the classes is assessed as well. This part accounts for 10% of the final seminar mark. Work will take place in form of in-class presentation/groupworks focused on specific assignments/tasks.

A success pass in the seminar is worth 6 Credits.

### Questions?

All further questions and requests can be addressed by email to [thomas.steger@wiwi.uni-regensburg.de](mailto:thomas.steger@wiwi.uni-regensburg.de) or to [alessia.pisoni@uninsubria.it](mailto:alessia.pisoni@uninsubria.it).