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Book Review

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UTMS Journal of Economics

Provided in Cooperation with:

University of Tourism and Management, Skopje

Suggested Citation: Kraleva, Natasa (2011) : Book review: Methodology of scientific research by Zoran Ivanovic, UTMS Journal of Economics, ISSN 1857-6982, University of Tourism and Management, Skopje, Vol. 2, Iss. 1, pp. 109-111

This Version is available at:

<https://hdl.handle.net/10419/49230>

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Book Review ***Methodology of Scientific Research*** **by Zoran Ivanovic**

Natasa Kraleva¹

Author of the book *Methodology of Scientific Research* is Zoran Ivanovic, Ph.D.—full time professor at the University of Rijeka, Republic of Croatia.

The book is published by SAIVA–Kastav (www.saiva.hr) in 2011. It should be noted that this is significant work of 702 pages in the area of methodology. Additionally, the bibliography section consists of two segments: used literature and quoted literature.

The book consists of five sections:

1. Logical and gnoseological basis of methodology.
2. General and scientific methods of cognition.
3. Intentions, purpose and process of scientific cognition.
4. Writing a scientific and professional paper.
5. Cognition development process and practical application of the results from scientific research.

What defines the time we live in?

→We witness the daily advancements and expanding of the scientific research.

→We witness the immense growth of scientific discoveries.

→The time we live in is time of growth and development of science.

→The complexity and the diversity of issues the science is coping with surely affect one's interest in science.

Bearing this in mind, one can conclude that any piece of work regarding both science and scientific research is of superior significance. Great example of such a work is the book *Methodology of scientific research* written by professor Ivanović. It is an outstanding work about research methodology. Furthermore, writing a book on scientific research methodology is necessary, and also it is a brave step which requires high responsibility.

As the author notes it is through scientific and research work that the intellectual and creative engagement of people is accomplished. This is the reason why even

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though scientific engagement is difficult it is still one of the noblest professions, a profession chosen only by few. He further suggests that this is because even a small contribution in the vast area of cognitions and treasure of perception for a certain issue, phenomenon or thing – implies that the researcher has accomplished something meaningful and significant and can be proud of.

Usually for every piece of work (paper, book, etc) the following question is asked: For whom this book is intended? In this case, the answer is obvious: to all current and future students and researchers who have not had the opportunity to learn about research methodology. Furthermore, this book is also of invaluable significance to all postgraduate and doctoral students. It is certain that professor's Ivanović book should be compulsory for all postgraduate and doctoral students.

Every postgraduate and doctoral curriculum should have "Research methods" as a compulsory module. Unfortunately, there are many instances where this module is taught without the appropriate literature. This happens in all areas, in social, natural or technical sciences. Prof. Ivanović presents up-to-date guidelines for conducting research in scientific fashion in all areas, predominantly social sciences, and also applicable in all other areas. Additionally, this book aims at giving the reader a comprehensive overview of the contemporary research methodology.

Undoubtedly it can be concluded that the book was written as result of years of great work and experience in scientific research. Every chapter, every sentence in this book has been reviewed many times, so any possibility for irregularity is excluded. With more than 440 footnotes numerous fragments from the basic text are thoroughly explained.

Since prof. Ivanović has written a book on how to write a scientific work, one cannot expect anything less than an outstanding example of a book that accomplished to serve its purpose, and that is guiding the reader through the process of research and writing in a scientific manner.

This book will surely fulfill the gap that exists in this area. Since Croatian (the language that the book is written in) is understood in many countries in the Balkans, surely this book will be useful for many scholars coming from: Zagreb, Belgrade, Sarajevo, Podgorica, Skopje, Ljubljana, Prishtina and other university centers.

All five sections of the book are of great significance for the current and future researchers. For instance, in chapter 18 the author discusses about terms that are not appropriately understood by many readers, terms such as: scientific papers, the main technical characteristics of books and publications, professional papers, scientific and professional works ... etc.

All these facts contribute to the exceptional dimension of this book written by prof. Ivanović. Beside the highly scientific achievements in the first three segments that deal with methodology, research methods and scientific cognitions, the fourth segment contains a multitude of information relevant to any researcher and additional practical advice. For example: from pages 601-619 is the chapter "Documentation base of the manuscript of the work" in which the author discusses giving an outline of the bibliography and how references and quotations are used. Anyone engaged in writing a scientific work knows the importance of these aspects.

Each and every researcher, student and anyone engaged in any research work will have an invaluable benefit from this book. Since the capability to conduct a research, to gather, present and utilize data is of primary significance to every researcher, the relevance of this book is immense. As the author in the introduction observes, in order

to accomplish in scientific manner his/her work and pre-set goals the scientist has to receive cognition of both, methodology of scientific research and the process of technology of writing of scientific and professional paper which includes: required knowledge for the selection of the problem and the theme; planning of the scientific research; scientific and professional publications; writing steps and the essential characteristics of scientific and professional works, the required knowledge for the method of publication of research results.

Written in easy-to-understand manner, this book validates the significance of scientific approach to research. It offers both students and scholars concrete overview of the world of research. Furthermore, prof. Ivanović presents up-to-date guidelines for research for anyone undertaking a research endeavor, regardless if it is a student, researcher or non-academic professional.