

# Research Methods and Tools 1 (RMT1)

## Transdisciplinary Research Methods

<b>TIME</b>	July to November 2021
<b>COORDINATOR</b>	Adriana Diaconu (UGA)
<b>FACULTY</b>	Marietta Haffner (TUD), Krzysztof Nawratek (USFD), Flora Samuel (UREAD)
<b>CREDITS</b>	2 ECTS (50 hours, including synchronous sessions and self-directed work)

### 1. Introduction

This is the first of three courses in the RE-DWELL integrated training activities focusing on Research Methods and Tools (RMT). It is dedicated to the exploration of transdisciplinarity in housing studies as well as of the key concepts of the program that are housing affordability and housing sustainability. This course will contribute to the first network-wide training activities: the first three-day workshop (WS1) and the first Summer School (SS1) and will provide outputs collaboratively produced by the early stage researchers (ESR) presented as vocabulary entries.

### 2. Learning aims

- To initiate collaboration between ESRs in order to start supporting the creation of a research network across their projects.
- To support the development of the ESRs individual research projects by consolidating their disciplinary and transdisciplinary theoretical and methodological standpoints.

### 3. Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the module, ESRs are expected to demonstrate the following:

- Understanding of different approaches to transdisciplinarity
- Understanding of different disciplinary perspectives to housing research
- Ability to analyze and position their own research and that of another ESR within the field of housing studies in relation to different disciplines
- Ability to analyze different research approaches to housing issues in terms of methods and methodological mix (interdisciplinarity, transdisciplinarity, etc.)
- Ability to analyze the use of two fundamental concepts of housing studies - housing affordability and housing sustainability - and apply them in their own research work
- Ability to create a transdisciplinary research proposal in which they defend their own approach to transdisciplinarity based on the critical synthesis of the course materials

### 4. Delivery Structure

Item	Lecture (x3)	Workshop (x4)	WS1	SS1
<b>SESSION 1</b> Housing transdisciplinarity.	X (online)	X (online)		
<b>SESSION 2</b> Housing affordability and affordable housing provision.	X (online)	X (online)		
<b>SESSION 3</b> Housing sustainability.	X (online)	X (online)		
<b>SESSION 4</b> Cases of (trans)disciplinary housing research.			X (WS1)	
<b>SESSION 5</b> Vocabulary workshop.		X (online)		
<b>SESSION 6</b> Mapping the (trans)disciplinarity of the ESR's research.				X (SS1)

Orange text: July delivery.

## 5. Training Activities

Date	Description of the activity	Lead
16.07.2021 14:00-14:30 CET	<b>SESSION 1. Introduction to RMT1 course.</b>  This first session will comprise a presentation of the course and of the different ESR individual and collective tasks and expected submissions.	Adriana Diaconu
16.07.2021 14:30-16:00 CET	<b>SESSION 1. Introduction to transdisciplinarity.</b>  The session will introduce the complex discussion on transdisciplinarity. Through an introduction of basic principles of multi-, inter- and transdisciplinary, ESRs will further analyse critically the existing literature and answer questions about their own research project in order to build their research framework in a transdisciplinary way.	Marja Elsinga
3.09.2021 14:00-17:00 CET	<b>SESSION 2. Housing affordability and affordable housing provision.</b>  The session explores conceptual as well as empirical information. The first part of the session explores the concept of housing affordability from the consumer point of view: what factors affect it and how can it be measured to identify 'sustainable' access to living in housing. In the second part of the session, examples of the provision of affordable housing and trends therein from different European countries are presented and discussed.	Marietta Haffner and Gerard van Bortel
17.09.2021 14:00-16:00 CET	<b>SESSION 3. Housing sustainability.</b>  Introduction to the origin of the terms sustainability, sustainable developments, and their changing meanings over time. Sustainable and affordable housing represented in the Sustainable Development Goals (goals, indicators and targets). Interlinking affordable and sustainable housing: what does sustainable housing mean?  Sustainable design and building: a universal, overarching paradigm for contemporary architecture.	Leandro Madrazo
23.09.2021 (Lisbon WS1-Hybrid Session) 9:00-12:00 CET	<b>SESSION 4. Cases of (trans)disciplinary housing research.</b>  Round table with invited researchers (outside RE-DWELL) on inter-, cross- or trans-disciplinary research on housing, including a reflection on the history of housing research. This session will showcase	Adriana Diaconu and Flora Samuel

	<p>examples of different approaches to housing issues aiming to transcend disciplines and/or to link research and practice. ESRs will be encouraged to reflect on their own position within the debate.</p>	
<p><b>15.10.2021</b></p> <p>14:00-17:00 CET</p>	<p><b>SESSION 5. Vocabulary workshop.</b></p> <p>Group presentations and workshop on key terms definitions and theoretical frameworks.</p> <p>Based on the group work initiated in the beginning of the course (SESSION 1) the ESRs will identify and define (with reference to the literature) key terms that they will be using in their projects. The ESRs will submit three relevant terms in advance of the session and will be clustered into groups of two or three to work on defining one of these terms during the session. The definitions will be presented to the group for review and discussion. The definitions will be refined and presented as a RE-DWELL vocabulary entry to be submitted after the workshop. (TASK°1).</p>	<p>Flora Samuel and Jean-Christophe Dissart</p>
<p><b>November 2021</b> <b>(Nicosia SS1)</b></p> <p>14:00-14:30 CET</p>	<p><b>SESSION 6. Mapping the (trans)disciplinarity of the ESR's research.</b></p> <p>In the sessions of the Nicosia Summer School dedicated to RMT1 the ESRs will present the essays written as part of the RMT1 course (TASK °2) as well as a short peer-review report on the essay of another designated ESR.</p> <p>Based on these presentations, a collective mapping of the disciplinary approaches put forward by the different research projects will be elaborated. This second map will reflect the structure acquired by the network, first five months after the initial mapping exercise realized during the Introductory days.</p>	<p>Adriana Diaconu</p>

## 6. ESR outputs

### 6.1. RMT1 TASK 1. Group work

Definitions of the main terms used in the ESR projects. Each ESR will chose three key terms that are relevant for their research. A list of key terms proposed by researchers of the RE-DWELL network will be provided in SESSION 1 in support. The three chosen terms have to be

communicated via the Group Work\_RMT1 Channel in Teams before the next session, on **September 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

The ESRs will be clustered in groups of two or three to work collectively on definitions of the chosen terms that are meaningful for their own research projects. The definitions should take into account different disciplinary and theoretical approaches, and relate to the ESRs research questions and methodologies.

The definition of one of the terms chosen by each ESR will be discussed in a collective session: the VOCABULARY WORKSHOP (Session 5 on October 15<sup>th</sup>). The collective outputs of this task will be presented as vocabulary entries (500 words, plus references). **Submission date: 22.10.2021.**

## 6.2. **RMT1 TASK 2. Individual work**

ESRs will be required to produce a 2,500 - 3,000 words essay revisiting their own research proposal, including their research questions, and integrating the different components of the RMT1 course:

- definitions of the key terms used in their research proposal
- critical synthesis of the existing literature on transdisciplinarity and presentation of their own standpoint in terms of disciplinary, inter- or transdisciplinary approach and methodology.

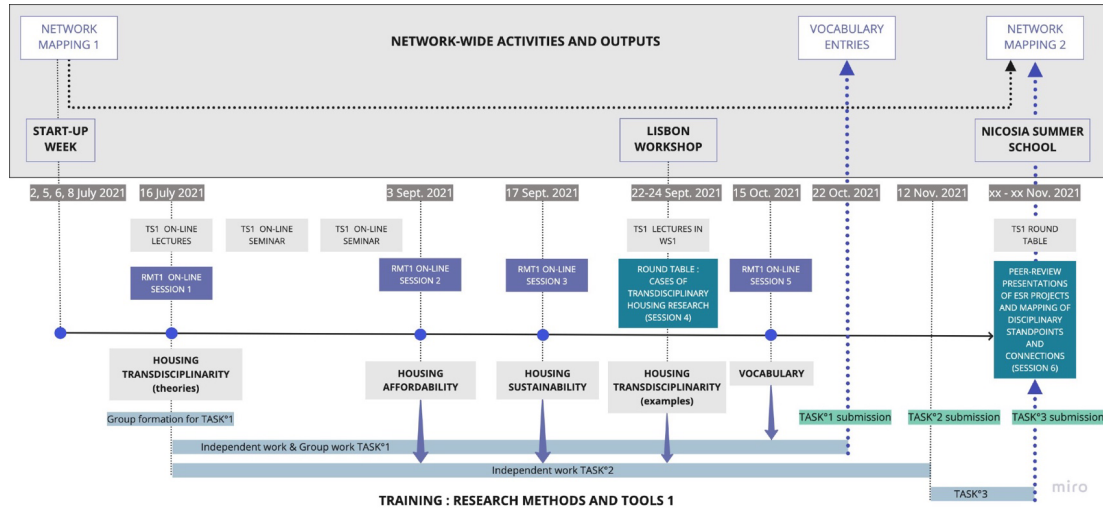
**Submission date: before 12.11.2021.**

## 6.3. **RMT1 TASK 3. Individual work:**

Peer review of the essays written by two another ESRs in TASK 2. A short report (about 500 words) should critically assess the disciplinary position of the research proposal of the two another ESRs and give recommendations.

The peer-review reports will be presented during the Nicosia Summer School in **November**. They will be further used as support for mapping the network of the 15 ESRs' research projects based on their disciplinary standpoints and their possible developments.

## 7. Training plan



## 8. Online material

Teams folder:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19%3aNmzlibaQbUs4gK5Vqyw0d4fBi0dU7WlwaDg1LOQhLwg1%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=bacfba90-e84c-4f60-8e9c-7c134b649fba&tenantId=6e24b6e5-3049-4468-ae77-a308ba97331f>