

Course: Ph D

Course Title: Research Methodology

Course Type: Core

Course Teacher: Dr Shubhamitra Das and Dr. M Venkataraman

Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 4 hours per Week

Class Schedule: Wednesdays and Thursdays 2.00 p.m to 4.00 p.m.

Course Aims and Objectives

1. Create and maintain focus on the subject of study
2. Understanding methods, techniques and procedures for a scientific analysis
3. Ability to objectify and find intricate relativity of issues
4. Cognitive understanding of social, economic and political processes that intertwine and sometimes separates from each other
5. Helps in building research designs and theory for broadening knowledge
6. Ability to help in problem solving during the entire process of research

Learner's Outcome

1. Creates a deeper insight into the topic and makes an in-depth study possible
2. Theory building and enhance knowledge base
3. Focus on the said topic will be maintained when methods of research are followed meticulously.
4. Problem solving becomes easier
5. Ability to deal with large samples
6. Ability to read between the lines and analyse

Evaluation Method

Sessional work including term papers, book reviews, presentations and synopsis writing with 50 marks and End Semester Exam for 50 marks

Course Content

Research Methodology is the most essential exercise that is required for advanced and in-depth research. It is to understand, systematize and expedite a research problem scientifically and logically, so that the research can ensure reliable and valid results. Research methodology helps

in finding out systematic methods involving a series of processes such as formulating research problem, finding the independent, dependent and control variables that allows focus of the study, extensive literature survey, development of hypothesis, preparing research design, determining sample design, collecting data and analysis. It is a mandatory course to be taken up by the Ph D scholars. The course content is as follows

1. Introduction- Epistemology of Knowledge
2. Foundations of Empirical Research, Political Analysis
3. Scientific Approach- Conceptual foundations of Research, Role of Methodology in Social Sciences Research, deductive and inductive methods of Research, Falsification of Karl Popper
4. Conceptual Foundations of Research- Concepts, definition, theory
5. Basic Elements of Research- Research Problems, Definitions, Units of Analysis, Variables, Relations, Hypothesis
6. Research Design-Experiments, Classical experiments designs and causal inferences, components of Research Designs and Types of Designs
7. Research Designs- Pre-Experiments and Quasi-experiments, types of relations and designs, comparison of designs
8. Measurement-Nature, Levels, Data transformation, validity and reliability
9. Data Collection-observation, survey, questionnaire, unobtrusive measures, qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection, Sampling Methods and Case Study Methods
10. Data Processing and Analysis, content analysis, Socio-political analysis, theories of International Relations, Geopolitics and security analysis, Ontology and epistemological methods of analysis
11. Ethics of Social Sciences Research

References

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