

Pre-Ph.D. Coursework Syllabus

Research Methodology

Course Objectives

- To familiarize students with the basic concepts and approaches to the study of research methodology.
- To acquaint students with the basics of research methods, techniques, and approaches and to assist in the accomplishment of exploratory as well as result oriented research studies.
- To help students to identify the research problem and start asking the right questions with a goal of improving their ability to make a logical argument.
- To assist students to learn various research techniques (qualitative and quantitative).
- To train students in the process of writing various academic and popular writings.
- To sensitize students of research ethics.

Syllabus Structure

Unit-I: Foundations of Research

- Human Inquiry and Science
- Paradigms, Theory, and Social Research
- The Ethics and Politics of Social Research
- Characteristics of scientific method

Unit-II: Problem Identification and Formulation

- Explanation and Causation
- Research Question
- Literature Review
- Hypothesis: Importance, logic, and testing

Unit-III: Research Techniques

- Qualitative and quantitative research
- Policy oriented problem specific research in Political Science
- Experimental and Formal Research Methods
- Case studies and comparative research
- Content analysis and historical analysis
- Direct observation, field studies and archival research

Unit-IV: Research Design and Report Writing

- Analyzing primary and secondary documents

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- Data presentation and preliminary analysis, interpretation of data
- Research Design and writing the report
- Organizing and Mapping Arguments
- Presenting the Material: citation, references, notes

Course Outcomes

After completion of their course the students will be able to understand:

- CO1: Familiar with the basic concepts of research methodology.
 CO2: Acquainted with the basics of research methods, techniques and approaches of research.
 CO3: Identify the research problem and formulate research questions and hypothesis.
 CO4: The process of writing various academic and popular writings.
 CO5: Fundamentals of research ethics.

Suggested Reading list:

1. Ahuja, Ram. Research Method, Rawat Publication, New Delhi, 2001
2. Art, Robert J. and Jervis, Robert International Politics: Enduring Concepts and Contemporary Issues, Longman, 2010
3. Dhiman, AK and S. C. Sinha. Research Methodology, EssEss Publication, New Delhi, 2002
4. Fowler, Flyod J. (Jr). Survey Research Methods, Sage, Beverley Hills, 1984.
5. Gerring, John 2004. "What is a Case Study and What is it Good for?" American Political Science Review 98, pp. 341-354
6. Kuhn, Thomas, The Structure of Scientific Revolution, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2012. (50th edition).
7. Popper, Karl, Open Society and Its Enemies, New Jersey: Pentagon University Press, 2013.
8. Kohari, C. R and Garg, Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques, New Age International Publisher, New Delhi, 2019 (4th edition).
9. A, MacIntyre. (1974). A Short History of Ethics. London.
10. Bird, A. (2006). Philosophy Of Science. United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis. .
11. Chaddah, P. (2018). Ethics in Competitive Research: Do not get Scooped, do not get plagiarized.
12. Galtung.J. (1967), Theories and Methods of Social Research (London: Allen and Unwin)
13. Kumar, R (2010). Research Methodology: A Step-by-Step Guide for Beginners. United Kingdom: SAGE Publications.

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