GIR 3401: Fundamentals of Research Methodology

Course Objectives

The main objective of this course is to introduce the basic concepts in research methodology in Social science. This course addresses the issues inherent in selecting a research problem and discuss the techniques and tools to be employed in completing a research project. This will also enable the students to prepare report writing and framing Research proposals.

Course Outcomes

- Students who complete this course will be able to understand and comprehend the basics in research methodology and applying them in research/ project work.
- This course will help them to select an appropriate research design.
- With the help of this course, students will be able to take up and implement a research project/ study.
- The course will also enable them to collect the data, edit it properly and analyse it accordingly. Thus, it will facilitate students' prosperity in higher education.
- The Students will develop skills in qualitative and quantitative data analysis and presentation.
- Students will be able to demonstrate the ability to choose methods appropriate to research objectives.

Unit I: Basics in Social Science Research

- 1. Social Science Research: meaning and significance,
- 2. Objectivity in Social Science Research
- 3. Types of Research: Historical and Analytical, Quantitative and Qualitative, Empirical and Normative

Unit II: Research Design

- 1. Experimental and exploratory research designs
- 2. Preparing research proposals: Selection of the topic, Review of literature, Identifying Objectives of the Study, preparing Research Questions,
- 3. Hypothesis formation

Unit III: Data Collection

- 1. Sources of Data: Primary and Secondary
- 2. Methods of collecting data: Observation, Questionnaire, Interview, Focus groups and Case study method
- 3. Types of Sampling: Random sampling, Systematic sampling and Stratified sampling
- 4. Survey Research: Role of library and Internet

Unit IV: Data Analysis

- 1. Validation of Data
- 2. Writing research report, Format of the report
- 3. Style of referencing, Bibliography

Unit V: Issues in Research

- 1. Research Ethics
- 2. Plagiarism, software to detect plagiarism

Reading Materials

Alan Bryman (2018): Social Research Methods, London: OUP

B A Prasad Sharma and P. Satyanarayan. Ed.(1983): Research Methods in Social Sciences, New Delhi: Sterling

Bridget Somek and Cathy Lewin (2005): Research Methods in the Social Sciences, New Delhi: Sage

B.N Ghosh (1984): Scientific Method and Social Research, New Delhi: Sterling.

C. R Kothari (2004): Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques. New Delhi: New Age International.

David McNaab (2010): Research Methods for political Science, New York: Routledge Gary King et al., (1994): Designing Social Inquiry; Scientific Interference in Social Research, Princeton: Princeton University Press.

John W Cresswell& J David Cresswell (2017): Research Design, New Delhi: Sage. Jayson D. Mycoff (2019): Working with Political Science Research Mehods, London: Sage

Roger Pierce (2008): Research methods In Politics: A Practical Guide, New Delhi: Sage S P Gupta (2012): Statistical Methods, New Delhi: Sultan Chand & Sons

William J.Goode and Paul K. Hatt (1952): Methods in Social Research, New York: Mc Graw-Hill Book Co.

Zina O Leary (2010): The Essential Guide to Doing Your Research Project, New Delhi: Sage.