

Course Code: APSY-356
Course Title: Research Methods-I (Practical)

Credit Hours: 1
(Major Course)

Introduction

This course will develop the skills and knowledge required to understand and carry out research in psychology and the behavioural sciences. Students will have hands on experience on how to plan and carry out research in order to learn about quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methodologies, how to sensibly formulate and investigate various kinds of research questions and how to interpret the findings of research.

Course Objectives

This course aims to:

1. familiarize students with major concepts of research methodology i.e. from generating research idea to data collection, analysis and interpretation of findings.
2. the course aims to develop scientific reasoning and understanding of link between theory and empirical investigation.
3. equip them with expertise of examining strengths and weaknesses of methodologies drawn from qualitative and quantitative traditions.
4. enable students make choices of appropriate methods to plan and execute research projects.

Learning Outcomes

At the completion of the course the student will be able to:

1. knowledge of research concepts and processes and they will be able to critically evaluate different research methods.
2. make decisions and follow steps involved in designing and executing a research plan.
3. design, conduct, analyze and interpret findings of an empirical investigation.
4. read through and evaluate research papers in scientific journals.
5. identify ethical concerns in a research study.

Contents

Unit-I

1.1 Mini Research Project

A group of 3 to 5 students will conduct a mini research project based on quantitative method of investigation.

Teaching-learning Strategies

Assigned supervisor will meet the groups of students and explain them the method to conduct research and to write report on it according to APA.

Assessment and Evaluation

Total Marks: 100

Each student will prepare a research report and assessment and evaluation will be carried out by an external examiner on the basis of research report and viva voce.

Suggested Readings:

- **Books:**

Breakwell, G. M. (2012). *Research methods in psychology* (4th ed.). Los Angeles: Sage.

Bryman, A. (2011). *Quantitative data analysis with IBM SPSS 17, 18 and 19*. London: Routledge.

Coakes, S. J. (2010). *SPSS version 17.0 for windows*. Australia: John Wiley & Sons.

- Cooper, H. (2010). *Research synthesis and meta analysis* (4th ed.). Los Angeles: Sage.
- Devellis, R. F. (2012). *Scale development* (3rd ed.). Los Angeles: Sage.
- Evans, A. N. (2011). *Methods in psychological research* (2nd ed.). Los Angeles: Sage.
- Flick, U. (2011). *Introducing research methodology*. Los Angeles: Sage.
- Gelfand, H. (2010). *Mastering APA style* (6th ed.). Los Angeles: Sage.
- Goodwin, C. J. (2002). *Research in psychology: Methods and design*. (3rd ed.). New York: John Wiley & Sons.
- Malhomes, V. (2010). *Applied research in child and adolescent development*. NY: Psychology Press.
- Mcbride, D. M. (2013). *The process of research in psychology* (2nd ed.). Los Angeles: Sage.
- McBurney, D. H. (1998). *Research methods* (4th ed.). Pacific Grove: Brooks/Cole Publishing Company.
- Mook, D. G. (2001). *Psychological research: The ideas behind the methods*. New York. John Wiley & Sons.
- Nestor, P. G. (2012). *Research methods in psychology*. Los Angless: Sage
- Nestor,P., & Schutt, R. (2012). *Research methods in psychology: Investigating human behavior*. USA: Sage Publication.
- Ray, W. J. (2000). *Methods toward a science of behavior and experience* (6th ed.). U.S.A: Wadsworth Thomson Learning.
- Reis, H. T. & Judd, C. M.(2000). *Handbook of research methods in social and personality psychology*. United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press.
- Shaughnessy, J. J.,Zechmeister,E. B., & Zechmeister, J. S. (2005). *Research methods in psychology*. (5th ed.). Singapore: McGraw-Hill.
- Silverman, D. (2011). *Interpreting qualitative data* (4th ed.). Los Angeles: Sage.
- Silverman, D. (2011). *Qualitative research* (3rd ed.). Los Angeles: Sage.
- Stangor, C. (2011). *Research methods for the behavioral sciences* (4th ed.). Australia: WADSWORTH.
- Willig, C. (2010). *Introducing qualitative research in psychology* (2nd ed.). New Delhi: Tata McGraw Hill
- Frost, N. (2021). *Qualitative Research Methods in Psychology: Combining Core Approaches 2e*. McGraw-Hill Education (UK).
- Howitt, D. (2019). *Introduction to qualitative research methods in psychology: Putting theory into practice*. Pearson UK.
- Jhangiani, R. S., Chiang, I. C. A., Cuttler, C., & Leighton, D. C. (2019). *Research methods in psychology*. Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

- **Journal Articles / Reports**

- Da Silva Frost, A., & Ledgerwood, A. (2020). Calibrate your confidence in research findings: A tutorial on improving research methods and practices. *Journal of Pacific Rim Psychology, 14*.
- Gabriel, A. S., Podsakoff, N. P., Beal, D. J., Scott, B. A., Sonnentag, S., Trougakos, J. P., & Butts, M. M. (2019). Experience sampling methods: A discussion of critical trends and considerations for scholarly advancement. *Organizational Research Methods, 22*(4), 969-1006.
- Gibson, S., & Sullivan, C. (2018). A changing culture? Qualitative methods teaching in UK psychology. *Qualitative Psychology, 5*(2), 197.
- Goode, C. T., Lamoreaux, M., Atchison, K. J., Jeffress, E. C., Lynch, H. L., & Sheehan, E. (2018). Quantitative skills, critical thinking, and writing mechanics in blended versus face-to-face versions of a research methods and statistics course. *Teaching of Psychology, 45*(2), 124-131.

- Sarstedt, M., Bengart, P., Shaltoni, A. M., & Lehmann, S. (2018). The use of sampling methods in advertising research: A gap between theory and practice. *International Journal of Advertising*, 37(4), 650-663.
- Sassenberg, K., & Ditrich, L. (2019). Research in social psychology changed between 2011 and 2016: Larger sample sizes, more self-report measures, and more online studies. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*, 2(2), 107-114.