Department of Gender Studies
University of the Punjab, Lahore
Course Outline

Program	BS Gender Studies	Course Code	GS-121	Credit Hours	3
Course Title	**Feminist Research**				

Course Introduction

The course "Feminist Research Methodology (Qualitative Research Methodology)" is designed to introduce students to the principles, theories, and practices of feminist research methodologies. It explores how feminist perspectives influence research processes, question traditional methodologies, and promote methods that acknowledge and address gender biases. This course will enable students to critically evaluate research literature, design and conduct qualitative research with a feminist lens, and contribute to the development of knowledge that is inclusive and equitable.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand and articulate the key principles and foundations of feminist research methodologies.
2. Critically analyze traditional and feminist research methods and their applications.
3. Design and conduct qualitative research using feminist methodologies.
4. Evaluate the ethical considerations and challenges in feminist research.
5. Communicate research findings effectively, acknowledging the impact of the impact of feminist methodologies on research outcomes.

Course Content		Assignments/Readings
Week 1	**Unit-I** 1.1 Introduction to Feminist Research Methodologies (FRM) 1.1. Overview of Feminist Research Methodologies	Hesse-Biber, S. N. (2014). *Feminist research practice: A primer (2nd ed.).* SAGE Publications.

	1.2. Philosophical Foundations of Feminist Research	
	1.3. Key Concepts: Feminism, Epistemology, Methodology 1.4. Importance of Feminist Research in Social Sciences 1.5. Characteristics of Qualitative Research	Roberts, H. (Ed.). (2013). *Doing feminist research.* Routledge. Kaur, R., & Nagaich, S. (2019). Understanding feminist research methodology in social sciences. *Available at SSRN 3392500.*

Week 2	**Unit-II**
	2. Historical Development of Feminist Research
	    2.1.1. Evolution of Feminist Methodologies
	    2.1.2. Key Figures and their Contributions
	    2.1.3. Shifts in Feminist Epistemological Perspectives
		Reinharz, S., & Davidman, L. (1992). *Feminist methods in social research.* Oxford University Press.

	2.2. Epistemological Foundations
	    2.2.1. Feminist Epistemology and Standpoint Theory
	    2.2.2. Intersectionality and its Implications for Research
	        2.2.2.1. Concept and significance of intersectionality
	        2.2.2.2. Application of intersectional frameworks in research
		Harding, S. (2004). *The feminist standpoint theory reader: Intellectual and political controversies.* Routledge.
		
		Gurung, L. (2020). Feminist Standpoint Theory: Conceptualization and Utility. *Dhaulagiri: Journal of Sociology & Anthropology,* 14.

		Collins, P. H., & Bilge, S. (2016). *Intersectionality*. Polity Press.

Week 3	**Unit-III**
	3. Research Design and Paradigms
	    3.1.1. Understanding Research Paradigms
	    3.1.2. Positivism, Interpretivism, and Critical Theory
		Willsher, K., & Goel, K. (2017). Feminist research paradigms. *Retrieved June, 25, 2019.*

	3.1.3. Choosing a Research Design 3.1.4. Exploratory, Descriptive, Explanatory	Cresswell, J. (2013). *Qualitative inquiry & research design: Choosing among five approaches* Hesse-Biber, S. N. (2008). Feminist research. *The SAGE encyclopedia of qualitative research methods,* 339-340.

Week 4	**Unit-IV**
	
	4. Developing Research Aims and Objectives
	    4.1.1. Classification of Research Skills for Research Success
	    4.1.2. Research Problems and Characteristics Research Problems
		Hennink, M., Hutter, I., & Bailey, A. (2020). *Qualitative research methods*. Sage.

	4.1.3. Formulation Research Aims and Objectives 4.1.4. Action Statements in Objectives	Merriam, S. B., & Tisdell, E. J. (2015). *Qualitative research: A guide to design and*

	4.1.5. Connecting Objectives and Research Questions 4.2. Measurement and Scaling 4.2.1. Validity and Reliability in Qualitative Research	*implementation.* John Wiley & Sons. Morse, J. M. (Ed.). (1994). *Critical issues in qualitative research methods.* sage.

Week 5	**Unit-V**
	5. Qualitative Research Methods
	    5.1.1.1. Case Study
	    5.1.1.2. Ethnographic
	    5.1.1.3. Phenomenological
	    5.1.1.4. Grounded
	    5.1.1.5. Narrative
		Creswell, J. W., & Poth, C. N. (2018). *Qualitative inquiry and research design: Choosing among five approaches.* Sage Publications

	5.2. Case Study Research
	    5.2.1.1. Definition and Characteristics
	    5.2.1.2. Designing a Case Study: Sampling, Data Collection, Analysis
	    5.2.1.3. Strengths and Limitations
	    5.2.1.4. Practical Applications and Examples
		Yin, R. K. (2018). *Case study research and applications.*
		
		Yin, R. K. (2012). *Applications of case study research* (Vol. 34). sage.

Week 6	5.3. Ethnographic Research
	    5.3.1. Introduction to Feminist Ethnography
	    5.3.2. Participant observation and fieldwork techniques
	    5.3.3. Analyzing ethnographic data: Coding, Thematic Analysis
	    5.3.4. Cultural sensitivity and reflexivity in ethnographic research
		LeCompte, M. D., & Schensul, J. J. (2010). *Designing & conducting ethnographic research: An introduction (Vol. 1).* Rowman Altamira.
		
		Stacey, J. (1988). Can there be a feminist ethnography? *Women's Studies International Forum,* 11(1), 21-27.

	5.4. Phenomenological Research
	    5.4.1. Understanding Phenomenology
	    5.4.2. Data Collection Methods: In-Depth Interviews, Focus Groups
	    5.4.3. Analyzing Phenomenological Data: Phenomenological Reduction, Thematic Analysis
	    5.4.4. Applications of Phenomenological Research
		Heidegger, M. (2005). *Introduction to phenomenological research.* Indiana university press.
		
		Moustakas, C. (1994). *Phenomenological research methods.* Sage.

Week 7	**5.5.** Grounded Theory
	    5.5.1. Overview of Grounded Theory Methodology
	    5.5.2. Data Collection Techniques: Interviews, Observation, Documents
	    5.5.3. Coding Procedures and Constant Comparative Analysis
	    5.5.4. Writing up Grounded Theory Research Findings
		Strauss, A. L., & Corbin, J. M. (1997). *Grounded theory in practice.* Sage.
		
		Cutcliffe, J. R. (2000). Methodological issues in grounded theory. J*ournal of advanced nursing,* 31(6), 1476-1484.

	5.6. Narrative Research
	    5.6.1. Definition and Characteristics
	    5.6.2. Collecting and Analyzing
	    5.6.3. Identifying Themes and Patterns in Feminist Research
	    5.6.4. Incorporating Storytelling into Research Design
		Squire, C., Andrews, M., Davis, M., Esin, C., Harrison, B., Hydén, L. C., & Hydén, M. (2014). *What is narrative research?* (p. 144). Bloomsbury Academic.
		
		Andrews, M., Squire, C., & Tamboukou, M. (Eds.). (2013). *Doing narrative research.* Sage.

		Personal Narratives Group. (1989). *Interpreting women's lives: Feminist theory and personal narratives.* Indiana University Press.

Week 8	5.7. Reflexivity and Positionality
	  5.7.1. Reflexivity in Qualitative Research
	  5.7.2. The Role of Researcher Positionality in Feminist Research
		Pillow, W. S. (2003). Confession, catharsis, or cure? Rethinking the uses of reflexivity as methodological power in qualitative research. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education,* 16(2), 175-196.

	Unit-VI
	
	6. Participatory Action Research (PAR)
	  6.1. Principles of Participatory Action Research
	  6.2. Characteristics Participatory Action Research
	  6.3. Feminist perspectives on PAR
		McIntyre, A. (2008). *Participatory action research (No. 52).* Sage.
		
		Fine, M. (2007). Feminist designs for difference. In S. N. Hesse-Biber (Ed.), *Handbook of feminist research: Theory and praxis (pp. 613-620).* SAGE Publications.

Week 9	**Unit-VII**
	
	7. Research Method
	  7.1. Research Design
	  7.2. Research Site
	  7.3. Participant Selection
		Newman, I., & Benz, C. R. (1998). *Qualitative-quantitative research methodology: Exploring the interactive continuum. SIU Press.*
		Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2005).

	7.4. Sampling Procedures (Types of sampling)	Mixed methods research: Developments, debates, and dilemmas. *Research in organizations: Foundations and methods of inquiry,* 2, 315-326.

	8. Data Collection
	  8.1. Impact of Technology on Women's Economic Opportunities
	  8.2. Digital divide
		Bachiochi, P. D., & Weiner, S. P. (2004). Qualitative data collection and analysis. *Handbook of research methods in industrial and organizational psychology,* 161-183.

Week 10	9. Data Collection Tools
	  9.1. In-depth Interviews
	    9.1.1. Feminist Approaches to Interviewing
	    9.1.2. Conducting and Analyzing Interviews
		Lobe, B., Morgan, D., & Hoffman, K. A. (2020). Qualitative data collection in an era of social distancing. *International journal of qualitative methods,* 19, 1609406920937875.
		
		Hesse-Biber, S. N. (2014). *Feminist approaches to in-depth interviewing. In Feminist research practice: A primer (2nd ed.).* SAGE Publications.

	9.2. Focus group discussion
	    9.2.1. Organizing and facilitating feminist focus groups
	    9.2.2. Analysis and interpretation of focus group data
		Madriz, E. (2000). Focus groups in feminist research. In N. K. Denzin & Y. S. Lincoln (Eds.), *Handbook of qualitative research (2nd*

		ed., pp. 835-850). SAGE Publications.
Week 11	9.3. Observation 9.3.1. Types and Process Observation 9.3.2. Observer Skills and Training 9.4. Problems of Observations	Smit, B., & Onwuegbuzie, A. J. (2018). Observations in qualitative inquiry: When what you see is not what you see. *International Journal of Qualitative Methods,* 17(1), 1609406918816766.
	10. Ethical Considerations 10.1. Informed Consent 10.2. Participants Anonymity 10.3. Data Security 10.4. Participants Rights	Pietilä, A. M., Nurmi, S. M., Halkoaho, A., & Kyngäs, H. (2020). Qualitative research: Ethical considerations. *The application of content analysis in nursing science research,* 49-69.
Week 12	11. Data Analysis 11.1. Process of Qualitative Data Analysis 11.2. Thematic Analysis 11.2.1. Step and Process of Thematic Analysis	Lacey, A., & Luff, D. (2001). *Qualitative data analysis (pp. 320-357).* UK: Trent Focus Group. Guest, G., MacQueen, K. M., & Namey, E. E. (2012). *Applied thematic analysis.* Sage.
	12. Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) 12.1. Step and Process of IPA 13. Interpreting the Findings	Eatough, V., & Smith, J. A. (2017). Interpretative phenomenological analysis. *The Sage handbook of qualitative*

		research in psychology, 193-209.
Week 13	**Unit VIII** 14. Writing and Presenting Feminist Research 14.1. Structuring Research Reports and Articles	Richardson, L., & St. Pierre, E. A. (2005). Writing: A method of inquiry. In N. K. Denzin & Y. S. Lincoln (Eds.), *The SAGE handbook of qualitative research (3rd ed., pp. 959-978).* SAGE Publications.

	14.2. Strategies for Effective Presentation of Feminist Research Findings
	    14.3. Encoding our Writings
	    14.4. Quotes in our writings
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Week 14	**Unit-IX** 15. APA 7th Edition	Iida, P. C., Ruegg, R., De Boer, M., Araki, N., & Agnello, M. F. (2020). *The concise APA handbook: APA 7th edition.* IAP.
	16. Course Review 16.1. Review of key Concepts and Methods	
Week 15	17. Course Review 17.1. Review of key concepts	
	18. Student Presentations of Final Research Projects	

Week 16	19. Final Presentations	
	20. Students Project Presentation	

<div align="center">Textbooks and Reading Material</div>

Textbooks.

- Creswell, J. W., & Poth, C. N. (2018). *Qualitative inquiry and research design: Choosing among five* approaches (4th ed.). Sage Publications.
- Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches.* (5th, Ed.) Londan: SAGE Publications Ltd. United Kingdom.
- Neuman, W. L. (2014). *Social Research Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches.* (7th, Ed.) England: Pearson Education Limited.

Suggested Readings
Books

- Andrews, M., Squire, C., & Tamboukou, M. (Eds.). (2013). *Doing narrative research.* Sage.
- Charmaz, K. (2006). *Constructing grounded theory.* SAGE Publications.
- Cresswell, J. (2013). *Qualitative inquiry & research design: Choosing among five approaches*
- Collins, P. H., & Bilge, S. (2016). *Intersectionality.* Polity Press.
- Fine, M. (2007). Feminist designs for difference. In S. N. Hesse-Biber (Ed.), *Handbook of feminist research: Theory and praxis (pp. 613-620).* SAGE Publications.
- Harding, S. (2004). *The feminist standpoint theory reader: Intellectual and political controversies.* Routledge.
- Hesse-Biber, S. N. (2014). *Feminist research practice: A primer (2nd ed.).* SAGE Publications.

- Iida, P. C., Ruegg, R., De Boer, M., Araki, N., & Agnello, M. F. (2020). *The concise APA handbook: APA 7th edition.* IAP.

- LeCompte, M. D., & Schensul, J. J. (2010). *Designing & conducting ethnographic research: An introduction (Vol. 1).* Rowman Altamira.

- Madriz, E. (2000). Focus groups in feminist research. In N. K. Denzin & Y. S. Lincoln (Eds.), *Handbook of qualitative research (2nd ed., pp. 835-850).* SAGE Publications.

- Moustakas, C. (1994). *Phenomenological research methods.* Sage.

- Mertens, D. M. (2009). *Transformative research and evaluation.* Guilford Press.

- Personal Narratives Group. (1989). *Interpreting women's lives: Feminist theory and personal narratives.* Indiana University Press.

- Reinharz, S., & Davidman, L. (1992). *Feminist methods in social research.* Oxford University Press.

- Reinharz, S. (1992). *Feminist methods in social research*. Oxford University Press.

- Richardson, L., & St. Pierre, E. A. (2005). Writing: A method of inquiry. In N. K. Denzin & Y. S. Lincoln (Eds.), *The SAGE handbook of qualitative research (3rd ed., pp. 959-978).* SAGE Publications.

- Strauss, A. L., & Corbin, J. M. (1997). *Grounded theory in practice*. Sage.

- Yin, R. K. (2018). *Case study research and applications.*

- Yin, R. K. (2012). *Applications of case study research (Vol. 34).* sage.

Journal Articles/ Reports

- Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2005). Mixed methods research: Developments, debates, and dilemmas. *Research in organizations: Foundations and methods of inquiry,* 2, 315-326.

- Lazar, M. M. (2007). Feminist critical discourse analysis: Articulating a feminist discourse praxis. *Critical Discourse Studies,* 4(2), 141-164.

- Cutcliffe, J. R. (2000). Methodological issues in grounded theory. J*ournal of advanced nursing,* 31(6), 1476-1484.
- Pillow, W. S. (2003). Confession, catharsis, or cure? Rethinking the uses of reflexivity as methodological power in qualitative research. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education,* 16(2), 175-196.
- Stacey, J. (1988). Can there be a feminist ethnography? *Women's Studies International Forum,* 11(1), 21-27.

Teaching Learning Strategies

- Use a mix of lectures and interactive discussions to engage students in the learning process to explain key concepts, theories, and methodologies.
- Encourage them to personal reflection and critical thinking related to feminist research methodologies.
- To engage in hands-on activities and develop research skills.
- To encourage collaboration and application of course concepts in research design and implementation.
- Quick presentations and discussion in Week 15 and 16 on given topic.

Assignments: Types and Number with Calendar

- Assignments: Week 1, week 6
- Quizzes: Week 3, week 12
- Group presentations and project submission: Week 15 and week 16

Assessment

Sr. No.	Elements	Weightage	Details
1.	Midterm Assessment	35%	Written Assessment at the mid-point of the semester.
2.	Formative Assessment	25%	Continuous assessment includes: Classroom participation, assignments, presentations, viva voce, attitude and behavior, hands-on-activities, short tests, projects, practical, reflections, readings, quizzes etc.

| 3. | Final Assessment | 40% | Written Examination at the end of the semester. It is mostly in the form of a test, but owing to the nature of the course the teacher may assess their students based on term paper, research proposal development, field work and report writing etc. |