

Programme	BS Political Science	Course Code	PS-451	Credit Hours	3
Course Title	Research Methods and Methodologies				
Course Introduction					
<p>This course aims at the dissemination of knowledge about the scientific methods of study and conduction of research. The course is specifically designed to serve the needs of postgraduate students in general, and the students with scholastic bent of mind, in particular who intend to go for higher education. A familiarity with latest / modern methods of study and the basic skills of research will facilitate the future assignments of would-be scholars. Tutors of this course should ask the students to prepare their semester assignments with the application of basic research techniques.</p>					
Learning Outcomes					
<p>On the completion of the course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students will demonstrate a thorough understanding of various research designs, including qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-method approaches, and will be able to select appropriate research designs for specific research questions.□ Students will acquire skills in various data collection methods (e.g., surveys, interviews, experiments) and data analysis techniques (e.g., statistical analysis, thematic analysis), enabling them to effectively gather and interpret data relevant to their research objectives.□ Students will develop the ability to critically evaluate existing research literature, identify gaps in current knowledge, and formulate research questions and hypotheses that contribute to the advancement of the field.• Students will understand and apply ethical principles and guidelines in conducting research, ensuring the integrity and ethical standards of their research practices, including obtaining informed consent, ensuring confidentiality, and addressing potential biases.					
Course Content				Assignments/Readings	
Week 1	Research Definitions				
Week 2	Meaning, Kinds and Importance of Research				
Week 3	Difference between Method and Methodology				
Week 4	Qualitative Research Method: An Overview				
Week 5	Qualitative Traditions of Inquiry				

Week 6	Qualitative Data Collection Strategies: Observation Kinds & Method. Using Secondary Sources	
Week 7	Qualitative Data Collection Strategies: Interview Method. Design an Interview Guide. Codification of the Interviews	
Week 8	Mid Term Exam	
Week 9	Quantitative Traditions of Inquiry	
Week 10	Data Collection Tools in Quantitative Research	
Week 11	Structuring a Questionnaire, & Usage of SPSS	
Week 12	Steps Involved in Research Writing: Argument building, Involvement of Theory, Contextual Inference, Analysis, and Conclusion	
Week 13	Difference among, Research Report, Thesis, Journal Article and a Book Chapter	
Week 14	Prevailing Writing Manuals (American Psychological Association APA)	
Week 15	Practical work, use of Computer Labs	
Week 16	Final Term Exam	

Textbooks and Reading Material

1. Textbooks.

In the detail course outline, one may mention chapters of the textbook with the content topics

2. Suggested Readings

1. Beverly R. Dixon, *A Handbook of Social Science Research*, London, Oxford University Press, 1987.
2. Buttolpa Johnson Janet and Richard A. Joslyn, *Political Research Methods*, Englewood Cliffs, Prentice Hall, 1986.
3. C.R. Kothari, *Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques*, New Delhi, Wiley Eastern Ltd., 1985.
4. Chava Nachmias and David Nachmias, *Research Methods in Social Sciences*, New York, St. Martins Press, 1981.
5. John W. Creswell, *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches*, New Delhi, Sage Publications, 2003.
6. Julian L. Simon and Paul Burstein, *Basic Research Methods in Social Sciences*, New York, Random House, 1985.
7. Margaret Stacey, *Methods of Social Research*, New York, Pergamon Press, 1969;
8. Philips W. Shively, *The Draft of Political Research*, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, Prentice-Hall, 1980.
9. Singleton (Jr.) Roycea and Bruce C. Straits, *Approaches to Social Research* (4th ed.), London, Oxford University Press, 2006.
10. W.G Goode and P.K. Hatt, (Eds.) *Methods in Social Research*, New York, McGraw-Hill, 1952.
11. Welman (2005) *Research Methodology*, Oxford University Press Southern Africa,

2.1. Journal Articles/ Reports

Teaching Learning Strategies

Teaching learning strategies: class participation and panel discussion, to hold a seminar with effective students participation, interactive sessions with students, surprise quiz and presentation on relevant topics, to hold competition among students to discuss effectively different topics related to subject and appreciate students through giving them certificates.

Assignments: Types and Number with Calendar

1. Assignment types,
2. Quiz competition among students.
3. Presentations with question answers session
4. And group discussions

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.