

SEVENTH SEMESTER

Course Title: Research Methods & Term Paper Writing

Course Code: EL 419

Semester: 7

Credit Hours: 4

Pre-Requisites Course Requirements: 12 Years of Education

Learning Outcomes

This course aims to enable students to:

1. Develop an understanding of research terminology
2. Create awareness of the ethical principles of research, ethical challenges and approval processes
3. Differentiate among quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods approaches to research
4. Learn the steps involved in research process
5. Identify the components of a literature review process
6. Understand the difference between research paper, thesis and book writing
7. Develop knowledge about different components of a synopsis and a research paper

Contents

Unit-I

- 1.1 Introduction to Research: The Wh-Questions of Research

- 1.2 Research process overview
- 1.3 Research methods: Qualitative, Quantitative, Mixed method research
- 1.4 Types of Qualitative and Quantitative researches
- 1.5 Thinking like a researcher: Understanding concepts, constructs, variables, and definitions
- 1.6 Problems and Hypotheses: Defining the research problem, Formulation of the research hypotheses

Unit-II

- 2.1 Reviewing literature
- 2.2 Data collection
- 2.3 Data processing and analysis
- 2.4 Difference between research paper, thesis and book writing
- 2.5 Parts of a synopsis
- 2.6 Research ethics and plagiarism
- 2.7 Research paper formatting: MLA

Teaching and Learning Strategies:

Following teaching strategies to be adopted:

1. Class Discussion
2. Reading and analyzing the text through interactive sessions.
3. Class presentations.
4. Group Discussions
5. Lectures, seminars and tutorials.

Assignments:

Two assignments, one before midterms and one after midterm, to be submitted. The students are advised to get their topics approved by the teacher. And there is a zero tolerance policy for plagiarism. (Please consult HEC policy on Plagiarism).

Assessment and Examination:

Sr. No.	Elements		Details
1	Midterm Assessment		It takes place at the mid-point of the semester.
2	Formative Assessment		It is continuous assessment. It includes: classroom participation, attendance, assignments and presentations, homework, attitude and behavior, hands-on-activities, short tests, quizzes etc.
3	Final Assessment		It takes place 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.

Suggested Readings

- Bhattacharjee, Anol. (2012). *Social Science Research: Principles, Methods and Practices*. University of South Florida.
- Bryman, Alan & Burgess, Emma (2011). *Business Research Methods* (Third Edition), Oxford University Press.
- Chawla, Deepak & Sondhi, Neena (2011). *Research methodology: Concepts and cases*, Vikas Publishing House Pvt. Ltd. Delhi.
- Creswell, J. W. (2014). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods approaches*. 4th Ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Kerlinger, F.N., & Lee, H.B. (2000). *Foundations of Behavioural Research* (Fourth Edition), Harcourt Inc.
- Rubin, Allen & Babbie, Earl (2009). *Essential Research Methods for Social Work*, Cengage Learning Inc., USA.
- Pawar, B.S. (2009). *Theory building for hypothesis specification in organizational studies*, Response Books, New Delhi.
- Neuman, W.L. (2008). *Social research methods: Qualitative and quantitative approaches*, Pearson Education.
- Walliman, Nicholas. (2001). *Your Research Project*. Sage Publications.