

MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY

Ph.D. COURSE WORK SYLLABUS

Course (1)- Research Methodology

Syllabus Common to the stream : Social Sciences, Management, Commerce, Law and Behavioural Sciences

Unit 1 – Foundations of Research:

A brief history of Social Research – logical positivism, Axiology, Ontology, Positive Epistemology – Logical Preliminaries – Indian and Western Constructivist Paradigm – Transformative Paradigm – Pragmatic paradigm- Merging Paradigms - Phenomenology

Unit 2 - Introduction to Research Methodology

- Meaning and importance of Research – Types of Research – Selection and formulation of Research Problem – Research Design – Ethical issues in Research
- Critical Analysis of Literature Review – Hypothesis : Different Types of Hypothesis
- Research Methods; Historical, Institutional, Legal, Philosophical, Comparative, Ethical, Survey, Case study, Content Analysis, experimental Method, Triangulation, Mixed Method Research.

Unit 3 - Data Collection

- Source of Data – Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Data
- Methods of Collecting Data : Observation, Questionnaire, Interview, Attitude Scales, Interest Inventories – Construction and Standardisation.
- Scaling Techniques – Different Types of Scales
- Sampling – Different Types – Sampling Errors – Type I and Type II errors.
- Different Types of Variables.

Unit 4 – Data Analysis & Interpretation

- Classification and Tabulation of Data – Graphical Representation
- Descriptive Analysis : Central Tendency and Dispersion, Coefficient of variation, correlation and Regression Analysis.
- Inferential Analysis: Parametric and Non-parametric tests, T-test, F-test, ANOVA, ANCOVA, Chi-square.

Unit 5 – Report Writing/Project proposal

- Organisation of Research Report – Types, Structure and Components – Contents, Bibliography, Appendices
- Style Manuals – APA style, MLA style, ASA style, The Chicago Manual of style etc.
- Evaluation of Research Report
- Preparing Research papers for journals, seminars and conferences.
- Preparation of project proposal – Title, Abstract, Introduction: Rationale, objectives, methodology – Time frame and work plan – Budget and justification – References

Unit 6 – Application of Results and Ethics

Environmental Impacts – Ethical issues – Ethical Committees – Commercialization – copy right, intellectual property rights – Reproduction of published material – accountability.

Unit 7 – Application of Computer in Research

- MS office and its application in Research – MS Word, MS Powerpoint and MS Excel
- Basic principles of Statistical Computation using SPSS
- Use of Internet in Research – Websites, search Engines, E-journal and E-Library – INFLIBNET.