



SECOND SEMESTER 2018-2019

Course Handout Part II

Date: 07-01-2019

In addition to part-I (General Handout for all courses appended to the time table) this portion gives further specific details regarding the course.

Course No. : GS F331
Course Title : Techniques of social research
Instructor-in-Charge : Aswathy Raveendran

Scope and Objective of the Course:

Principles of social research, research process, stages of social research, choosing the research problem, objectivity and subjectivity in social research, ethics in social research, ethical codes of practice, confidentiality and anonymity, privacy, Effects of Value in social research, constructing social explanations, descriptive studies, explanatory studies, designing a social research proposal, quantitative research, survey, sampling, SPSS, various statistical tests, qualitative research, observation: participant and non-participant, issues in conducting qualitative research studies, case studies of socio-economic, political, health, gender and developmental issues, interview as social interaction, ethnographic research, field study, hypothesis testing, analysis of data, report preparation and documentation, factors limiting application of social research, evaluation research and development of social indicators.

Text Book:

Cohen, L., Manion, L., & Morrison, K. (2007). *Research methods in education*. NY: Routledge.

Course Plan:

Lecture No.	Learning Objectives	Topics to be covered	Chapter in the textbook
1-7	Understand and appraise reality with a focus on: Nature of reality: natural and social reality, Ontology and Epistemology, Approaches in social science research: positivism and anti/post-positivist approaches.	-Constructing social explanations -Questions related to subjectivity, objectivity -Descriptive and explanatory studies	TB chapter 1 Additional reading material/handouts to be provided in class.



8-10	Plan conceptualize and execute a research study	How to systematically plan a research study	Textbook-Chapter 3
11-14	Analyse and argue about ethical issues in social research	Informed consent, principles of ethics, case studies that illustrate ethical issues	TB Chapter 2, Chapter 5, Additional reading material may be shared
15-19	Understand and apply techniques in quantitative research with a focus on methods, modes of analysis to social problems.	Sampling, hypothesis testing, survey, SPSS, statistical tests, development of social indicators, discussion of a case study	TB Chapters 4, 19, 24, 26
20-32	Understand and apply techniques in qualitative research	Nature of qualitative research (class no.s 20-23)	TB Chapter 7
		Participant and non-participant observation, Ethnography, Interview, Case studies, sampling, validity and reliability (class no.s 24-28)	TB chapters 11, 16, 17, 18, chapters 4 & 6 (only sections relevant to qualitative research)
		Analyzing qualitative data (class no.s 29-32)	TB chapters 22, 23 (p.491-500)
33-40	Evaluate and critique qualitative case studies.	Exposure to ways of analyzing, reporting and documenting data, limitations of social research	A set of research studies that will exemplify specific qualitative research methods will be shared.

Note: 1) This version of the course will have a predominant focus on qualitative research. Only a few lectures will be devoted to quantitative techniques. 2) In addition to the sources mentioned above, students may be required to go through a number of articles made available at various stages of the course.

8. Evaluation Scheme:

Component	Duration	Weightage (%)	Date & Time	Nature of Component
Assignment 1	NA	15%	TBA	open
Mid semester	1.5hours	30%	16/3 1.30 -3.00 PM	closed
Assignment 2	NA	15%	TBA	open



Comprehensive Examination	3 hours	40%	14/05 FN	closed

Chamber Consultation Hour: Will be announced in class.

Notices: Notices, if any, will be displayed on the CMS.

Make-up Policy: Make-up component will be allowed provided there is credible documentary evidence to prove the authenticity of the case.

Academic Honesty and Integrity Policy: Academic honesty and integrity are to be maintained by all students throughout the semester, non-compliance of which will not be acceptable.

Aswathy Raveendran

INSTRUCTOR-IN-CHARGE

