

Introduction: Types of research: Prospective vs retrospective. Scientific research approach and the research process. Topic identification. Proposal structure: Background information, Research questions, Problem statement, Justification/rationale, Formulation of hypotheses, Learning Outcomes. Literature retrieval; reading and summarising relevant articles, purpose and structure of survey articles, examples of survey articles. Research Methods: Qualitative Vs Quantitative. Study designs. Study populations. Sampling in research, Sample size estimation, Quality control, Data collection, Strengths/Weaknesses or Limitations, Designing questionnaires and interviews. Data management, Time planning, Budgeting, References, ethical considerations in IS research. Data analysis/processing and Presentations. Scientific writing: Thesis, Reports, Conference/workshop presentation and peer-reviewed journal publications, presenting posters and papers at conferences. Referencing systems, Plagiarism.

Research Philosophy; Slogans versus evidence, Arguments and persuasion, Evaluation –

Statistics, benchmarks, folklore.