

PhD Entrance Course Outline

Research Methodology

1 Introduction to research and literature review

- Definition of research, purpose of research and need of research
- Types of research (basic and applied)
- The scientific research process
- Problems encountered by researchers in India.
- Defining a research problem, components of a research problem, selecting the problem, techniques involved in defining a problem, problem statement, research questions, research objectives, hypotheses.
- Literature review, theory and conceptual framework.

2 Research design and Research Strategies

- Principles of research design, need and features of a good research design, different research designs
- Research strategies, Basic and applied research, qualitative and quantitative research

3 Sampling

- Types of sampling procedures (overview of probability and non-probability sampling techniques), characteristics of good sample design
- Understanding sampling design

4 Data Collection

- Classification of data collection methods (primary and secondary sources)
- Concept of validity and reliability of measuring instruments

5 Qualitative research: Overview of different methods

6 Construction of research proposal, Mechanics of reports writing

Recommended Books

1. Sekaran, U., & Bougie, R. (2016). *Research methods: A skill building approach*. John Wiley & Sons.
2. Saunders, M. N. (2011). *Research methods, 5/e*. Pearson Education India.