

**Honours Course: Skill Based**

Semester	Four
Paper Number	HPSSE4021T
Paper Title	Research Methodology II
No. of Credits	2
Theory/Composite	Theory
No. of periods assigned	Th: 2 Pr:
Name of Faculty member(s)	
Course description/objective	This course will introduce the students to the basic aspects of empirical research in the social sciences with particular reference to political studies. It will familiarize students with different approaches to research – exploratory, descriptive, causal, participatory and documentary. This knowledge will sensitize them to the requirements of field research and equip them with skills for independent empirical research and also as members of research organizations.
Syllabus	<b>Module I (40 marks)</b>  <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. An introduction to Exploratory Research or the Probing Approach: Literature Review, Interviewing key informants, collecting Focus Group data, Using the case study to collect data, Collecting data with a Pilot Survey. ( 2 lectures)</li><li>2. Descriptive Research or the Survey Approach: definition, origin and development; Techniques of survey research : Interviewing- interviewing techniques, advantages and disadvantages, different types and forms of interview, qualities of a good interviewer; Questionnaire- Question wording; fairness and clarity; advantages and disadvantages; dealing with the problem of non-response.(4 lectures)</li><li>3. Focus Group Studies- nature of focus group studies and uses; Types of Focus Groups – comparison of the ‘more structured’ and the ‘less structured’ Focus Groups; Role of the group leader. (2 lectures)</li><li>4. Causal Research or the Experimental Approach: Key concepts in experimental design; steps in planning and conducting experiments- achieving equivalence between groups; problems of internal and external validity; classical experimental design. (4 lectures)</li></ol>

	<p><b>Module II (40 marks)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Documentary Research or Content Analysis: what it is and when is its use appropriate; the major issues of content analysis – quality-quantity and manifest-latent. (3 lectures)</li> <li>6. Participatory Field Research – Participation and understanding the political process; participant observation and how to practise it; Modes of participant observation; advantages and disadvantages of participant observation. (4 lectures)</li> <li>7. Case Study Method – definition and types; steps involved in the case study method. ( 2 lectures)</li> <li>8. Aggregate Data Analysis – sources of aggregate data and advantages of aggregate data analysis; uses of aggregate data; use of aggregate data as indicators and associated problems; aggregate data and the fallacy of Inference. (3 lectures)</li> </ol>
Texts	
Reading/Reference Lists	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. R. Chatterjee, (1979) Methods of Political Enquiry, Calcutta: The World Press Pvt Ltd.</li> <li>2. D. E. McNabb, (2004) Research Methods for Political Science- Quantitative and Qualitative Methods, New Delhi: Prentice-Hall of India Pvt Ltd.</li> <li>3. Earl Babbie---(2004, 10<sup>th</sup> edition) The Practice of Social Research.</li> <li>4. Therese L Baker---(1998, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition) Doing Social Research.</li> <li>5. Leonard Cargan---(2007) Doing Social Research.</li> <li>6. Gerard Guthrie---(2010) Basic Research Methods: An Entry to Social Science Research.</li> <li>7. Matt Henn, Mark Weinstein, Nick Foard---(2009, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition) A Critical Introduction to Social Research.</li> <li>8. W Lawrence Neuman---(2011, 7<sup>th</sup> edition) Social Research Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches.</li> </ol>
Evaluation	<p>CIA: 20  End-Sem: 80  <b>Short Notes:</b> 2 out of 3 of 5marks each (2x5=10)  <b>Essay Type:</b> 3 out of 4 (3X10= 30) (40 marks per module)  40+40 (Module I + Module II= 80) (80+20 CIA=100)</p>