

Department of Commerce
Mahatma Gandhi School of Economics & Commerce
Assam University, Silchar

Course Work Syllabus 2020 - 21
(M.Phil & Ph.D Programme)

The Structure of the Syllabus is as under:

| Paper Code | Paper name | Credit |
|------------|--|--------|
| Paper-501 | Research and Publication Ethics (Interdisciplinary) | 2 |
| Paper-502 | Research Methodology | 4 |
| Paper-503 | Group A: Department Level Methodology | 2 |
| | Group B: research Area Specific | 2 |
| Paper-504 | Term Paper (with aim to cover Research Title for Registration) | 6 |
| | Total Credit | 16 |

Paper-501: Research and Publication Ethics

Total Credit – 2

(Interdisciplinary and University Level Paper)

Unit I: Philosophy and Ethics (Theory – 3 hrs)

- (i) Introduction to Philosophy: definition, nature and scope, concept, branches.
- (ii) Ethics: definition, moral philosophy, nature of moral judgements and reactions.

Unit II: Scientific Conduct (Theory – 5 hours)

- (i) Ethics with respect to science and research.
- (ii) Intellectual honesty and research integrity.
- (iii) Scientific misconducts: Falsification, Fabrication and Plagiarism(FFP)
- (iv) Redundant publications: duplicate and overlapping publications, salami slicing.
- (v) Selective reporting and misrepresentation of data.

Unit III: Publication Ethics (Theory – 7 hours)

- (i) Publication Ethics: definition, introduction and importance.
- (ii) Best practices/standards setting initiatives and guidelines; COPE, WAME, etc.
- (iii) Conflicts of interest
- (iv) Publication misconduct: definitions, concept, problems that lead to unethical behaviour and vice versa, types.
- (v) Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributorship.
- (vi) Identification of publication misconduct, complaints and appeals.
- (vii) Predatory publishers and journals.

Unit IV: Open Access Publishing (Practice- 4 hours)

- (i) Open access publications and initiatives.
- (ii) SHERPA/ RoMEO online resource to check publisher copyright and self- archiving policies.
- (iii) Software tool to identify predatory publications developed by SPPU.

- (iv) Journal finder/journal suggestion tools viz. JANE, Elsevier Journal Finder, Springer Journal Suggestions, etc.

Unit V: Publication Misconduct (Practice – 4 hours)

A. Group Discussions (2 hours)

- (i) Subject specific ethical issues, FFP, authorship.
- (ii) Conflict of Interest.
- (iii) Complaints and appeals: examples and fraud from India and abroad

B. Software tools (2 hours)

Use of plagiarism software like Turnitin, Urkund and other open source software tools.

Unit VI: Data bases and Research Metrics (Practice- 7 hours)

A. Databases (4 hours)

- (i) Indexing databases
- (ii) Citation databases

B. Research Metrics (3 hours)

- (i) Impact factor of journal as per Journal Citation Report , SNIP, SJR, IPP, Cite Score.
- (ii) Metrics: h-index, g-index, i10 Index, altmetrics.

**Paper 502: Research Methodology
(School Level Paper)**

Total credit: 4

Unit-I

- (i) Commonsense and Technical Research
- (ii) Methods of Acquiring Knowledge
- (iii) Meaning and Role of Assumption, Hypothesis, Propositions and Conceptual Abstract.
- (iv) Meaning of Postulate, Theory, Principle and Law

Unit-II

- (i) Schedule versus Questionnaires
- (ii) Scaling Techniques – Likert, Thurston
- (ii) Pre- testing and Collection of Data.

Unit- III

- (i) Methods of collection of Data and Information
- (ii) Sampling: Design and Types
- (ii) Sampling versus Survey Method
- (iv) Data Filtering and Tabulation

Unit –IV

- (i) Research Problem , Research Gap, Objectives of Research
- (ii) Hypotheses versus Research Questions
- (iii) Review of Literature and Methods of Referencing
- (iv) Synopsis Preparation and Design: Conceptual and Analytical.

Paper-503: Methodological and Conceptual Issues

Total Credit: 2+2 = 4

(Department Level)

Group: A - Department Level Methodology : 2 credits

UNIT 1: Common Methodology of General Nature

- i. Case Study, Focus Group, Pilot Study, Grounded Theory, Content Analysis, Conversation Analysis, Discourse Analysis, Documentary Analysis, Framework Analysis, Media Analysis, Narrative Analysis, Phenomenological Analysis, Textual Analysis, Factor Analysis.
- ii. Action Research, Evaluation Research, Organisational Research, Participatory Research, Policy Research, Practitioner Research.

UNIT 2: Research Design And Advanced Methodology

- i. Social Network Research, Sequential Design, Observational Research, Longitudinal Research, Historical Research, Delphi Method, Cross Section Design, Comparative Research, Behavioural Research.
- ii. Innovative Methods – Collaborative Research, Creative Research, Internet Research, Mobile Methodologies, Spatial Analysis, Video Research, Prig Data Analysis, Data Mining, Data Visualisation, Text Mining.

Group: B - Research Area Specific Issues : 2 credits

UNIT 3: Issues in Entrepreneurship And Accounting And Finance

- i. Make in India, Skill formation, Start up India, Self-Reliant India (*Atmanirvar Bharat*)
- ii. EDP, Entrepreneurship Promotion with special reference to North-East India
- iii. IGAAP, IFRS, GST and Ind AS
- iv. Performance Evaluation and Business Entities/ Banks/Financial Institutions
- v. Contemporary Issues in Entrepreneurship and Accounting and Finance

UNIT 4: Issues in Marketing and Human Resources Management

- i. Primary Sector Marketing, Industrial Sector Marketing, Service Sector Marketing with Special reference to efforts made by relevant Union/State Govt Ministries.
- ii. Green Marketing, Agri-Marketing, Niche Marketing and Digital Marketing
- iii. Industrial Relation and Labour laws, Diversified workforce, Stress Management
- iv. TQM, Talent War, HRM challenges in the World, Green HRM
- v. Contemporary Issues in Marketing and HRM

Paper - 504: Term Paper

Total Credit: 6

(With aim to cover Research Title for Registration)

The Total Marks of the Paper: 504 is 100 (for the Write Up: 75; and, Viva Voce: 25)

The Research Scholars who have taken admission shall be asked to prepare a write up (ideally of 40 – 50 pages, in Times New Roman Font, Single Spacing, 12 Font Size) on a topic covering Literature Review, Conceptual Framework and Research Gap/Scope of Further Research with an aim to prepare their Research Proposal for Title Registration at the later stage. This write up (called as Term Paper) should be submitted to the department after plagiarism check and duly certified by the Mentor/Supervisor in compliance with the syllabus of 501.