

Syllabus for M.Phil/Ph.D Course Work
Jadunath Sarkar School of Social Sciences
Assam University, Silchar
Course No- 501
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
(School Level Course effective from March, 2017)
Full Marks - 100
(04 Credits)

- UNIT - I Methods of acquiring knowledge : Traditional, Empirical, Rational, Interpretative, Dialectical and Scientific.
- UNIT - II Devices of acquiring knowledge : Assumption, Construct, Law, Theory, Hypothesis, Proposition, Axiom and Postulate.
- UNIT - III Types of Research: Basic/Pure research, Applied Research, Action Research, Qualitative and Quantitative research.
- UNIT - IV Research Proposal : Selection of research problem, Statement of research problem, Review of Literature, Formulation of research question, Rationale of study, Objective of study, Hypothesis, Operational definition of terms, Data and methodology, Scope of research, Preparation of research Report.
- UNIT - V Computer application and Computer Knowledge in Social Science Research : Basic concept of Computer, MS-Word application, EXCEL application, Creation of data file, Mathematical function, Logical function, Graph, SPSS application, Data analysis.

Reading List.

- Pauline V. Young & Calvin F. Schmid, *'Scientific Social Surveys and Research'*, Prentice Hall of India Private limited, New Delhi, 1975
- Chava Frankfort-Nachmias & David Nachmias, *'Research Methods in the Social Sciences'*, Arnold, London, 1996.
- Janet Buttolph Johnson & Richard A. Joslyn, *'Political Science Research Methods'*, Prentice Hall of India Private Limited, New Delhi, 1989.
- C.R. Kothari, *'Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques'*, New Age International (p) Limited, New Delhi, 2004
- Sanjay Saxena, *'A First Course in Computers'*, Vikas publishing House Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, 2000.

LOGIC AND METHOD OF SOCIAL RESEARCH

(Department Level Course)

Marks: 100

Credits: 4

Unit I

Social phenomena and scientific investigation; classical positivism, Marxian viewpoint and Winch's thesis

Unit II

Values and objectivity in social research; relevance of theory

Unit III

Methods of explanation: Marxist, Weberian, Structural- functional, methods of Karl Popper and Thomas Kuhn

Unit IV

Procedure of social research: Selection and formulation of research problem; hypothesis and its testing; sources of data, collection, analysis & interpretation of data, preparation of bibliography, referencing

Unit V

Inference of results; applied social research; research ethics

Reading List

1. Bottomore and Ruble: Karl Marx: Selected Writing in Sociology and Social Philosophy
2. Bose, Pradip Kumar : Research Methodology (ICSSR, New Delhi, 1995)
3. Brodbeck, M. 'Models, Meaning and Theories' Symposium on Sociological Theories, C.W. Churchman and P. Ratoosh
4. Domley, David: Social Research Methods, New Delhi, Prentice Hall.
5. Goode W.J. & P.F. Hatt. Methods in Social Research, New York, Mc. Graw Hill 1952
6. Hempel, Carl: 'Problems of Concept and Theory Formation in Social Sciences' in Science, Language and Human Rights
7. Kothari, C.R. Research Methodology, New Delhi, Viswa Prakashan
8. Mukherjee, P.N. (ed.) Methodology in Social Research Dilemmas and Perspectives, New Delhi, Sage
9. Popper K.R. The Logic of Scientific Conjection and Refutations
10. Thomas Kahm : Structure of Scientific Revolution (University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1970)
11. Rudner, R.S. Philosophy of Social Science
12. Weber Marx: The Methodology of Social Science
13. Winch, Peter: The Idea of a Social Science
14. Von Wright: Explanation and Understanding
15. Young P.V.: Scientific Social Survey and Research, New Delhi

THEORETICAL ORIENTATIONS IN SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

(Department Level Course)

Marks: 100

Credits: 4

Unit I

Imperialism (V.I. Lenin), structural Marxism (Louis Althusser), origin, growth and dissolution of Marxism (Kolakowski)

Critical appraisal of Marxist sociology (Ralf Dahrendorf and Karl R. Popper)

Frankfurt school and critical theory (Adorno, C.W. Mills, Herbert Marcuse)

Unit II

Phenomenology (Husserl Alfred Shutz), social construction of reality (Peter L. Berger), ethno-methodology (Harold Garfinkel)

Unit III

Structuralism (Levi Strauss), theory of Structuration (Anthony Giddens), post-structuralism (M Foucault)

Unit IV

Theory of communicative action (Habermas), neo-functionalism (Jeffery C. Alexander)

Unit V

Debates on post-modernism, globalization and information society

Reading List

- Zelner, Irving M. (1996) Rethinking Sociology: A Critique of Contemporary Theory, Jaipur Rawat Publications
- Wallace, Ruth A and Wolf Alison (1986) Contemporary Sociological Theory, Prentice Hall Inc
- Alexander, Jeffery C, (1985) Neo-functionalism, New Delhi: Sage Publication
- Habermas, J, (1981) Theory of Communicative Action, Boston: Beacon
- Bottomore, I.R. (1984) Frankfort School, Routledge
- Lash, Scott (1990) Sociology of Post-modernism, Routledge
- Berger, Peter L and Luckmann (1967) Social Construction of Reality, New York: Doubleday
- Alford (1999) Contemporary Sociological Theory, New Delhi: Tata McGraw Hill
- Popper, Karl R. (1945) Open Society and its Enemies, London: Routledge & Kegan Paul
- Giddens, Anthony (1979) Central Problems in Social Theory, London, Macmillan
- Bronner, S.E. and D.M. Kellner (1989) Critical Theory and Society : A Reader, New York, Routledge
- O'Neil, John (1994) Poverty of Post-modernism, New York, Routledge
- Dean, Mitchell (1994) Critical and Effective Histories, New York, Routledge
- Bryant, Christopher and David Jary (1990) Giddens's Theory of Structuralism, Routledge

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TERM PAPER
(Research Interest Specific Course)
Marks: 100
Credits: 4

Each student admitted to Ph D programme will have to write a term paper on a topic relating to any of the following under guidance of a teacher:

1. Culture & Development
2. Women and Society
3. Gender and society
4. Environment and Society
5. Education and Society
6. Law and Social Change
7. Professions and Professionalism
8. Media, Society and Culture
9. Science, Technology and Society
10. Language, Art and Culture
11. Dalit Studies in India
12. Globalisation and Society
13. Sociology of Health
14. Any other sociological issue