



Mangalore University

Department of Political Science

PSH 502: SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH: PERSPECTIVES AND METHODS

Course Objectives:

1. To introduce students to the larger framework of social science research
2. To familiarize students with the essentials of research work
3. To enable students to grasp the theoretical frameworks of research
4. To familiarize students the quantitative tools of research

Course Outcomes: The course will enable students to –

1. Understand the complex universe of social science and its modes of understanding
2. Effectively reflect upon the issues of social science research
3. Employ competently the techniques and methods in social research
4. Explore remedies to the challenges facing Social Science Research.

BLOCK I: INTRODUCTION

- UNIT 1 Natural and Social Science Contemporary Debates
- UNIT 2 Historical Formation of Social Science
- UNIT 3 Inter-disciplinary, Multi-disciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Perspectives
- UNIT 4 Method and Methodology

BLOCK II: PHILOSOPHICAL TRADITIONS AND METHODOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES

- UNIT 5 Empiricism, Positivism and Logical Positivism: The discourse on Science and Scientificity
- UNIT 6 The Linguistic Turn and Hermeneutics
- UNIT 7 Structuralism and Post Structuralism
- UNIT 8 Post Modernism, Deconstruction and Post Colonialism

BLOCK III: RESEARCH MOTHODS

- UNIT 9 Importance and Procedures
- UNIT 10 Dedutive & Inductive Method
- UNIT 11 Literature Survey, Observation and Content
- UNIT 12 Research Design, Hypothesis, Questionnaire, Case study and Interview Schedule

BLOCK IV: QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

- UNIT 13 Importance and Procedures
- UNIT 14 Data Editing and coding
- UNIT 15 Data classification and Tabulation
- UNIT 16 SPSS and Non-Parametric tests

Essential Readings

1. Bryman, Alan, *Social Research Methods*, Oxford, OUP, 2012
2. Burns, Robert B., *Introduction to Research Methods*, Sage, 2000
3. Gellner Ernest., *Cause and Meaning in Social Sciences*, London: Kegan Paul, 1973.
4. Giddens, A., *New Ruler of Sociological Method*, London: Hutchison, 1977.
5. Good and Hatt, *Methods of Social Research*, London: McGraw Hill, 1952.
6. Goddard, Wayne & Melville, *Research Methodology An Introduction*, Lansdowne, Juta & Co., 2001
7. McNabb, David E., *Research Methods for Political Science Quantitative and Qualitative Methods*,
New Dehi: PHI, 2005

Suggested Readings

1. Baker, L. Therese., *Doing Social Research*, Boston: McGraw Hill, 1999.
2. Cowan, Glan., *Statistical Data Analysis*, Oxford: Clarendon, 1998.
3. Chatterjee, Partha., *Social Science Research Capacity in South Asia*, New York: Social Science Research Council, 2002.
4. Dale, Angela., and Davies, B. Richard., eds., *Analysing Social and Political Change, A casebook of Methods*, London: Sage, 1994.
5. Hammersley, Martyn., ed., *Social Research : Philosophy, Politics and Practice*, London: Sage, 1993.
6. Johari, J.C., ed., *Introduction to the Methods of Social Sciences*, New Delhi: Sterling, 1988.
8. Krippendorff, Klans., *Content Analysis, An Introduction to its Methodology*, London: Sage, 1980.
9. Mahajan, Gurupreet., *Explanation and Understanding in Human Sciences*, Delhi: OUP, 1997.
10. Partha Ghosh S., *ICSSR and Social Science Research*, Economic and Political Weekly (Feb. 17), 2001.
11. Popper, R. Karl., *The logic of Scientific discovery*, London: Hutchison, 1980.
12. Ratna, V., *Statistical Calculations*, Agra: Ramprasad, 1970.
13. Sayer, Andrew., *Method in Social Science*, London: Hutchison, 1984.
14. Sharma, B.A.V., *Methods in Social Science Research*, New Delhi: Sterling, 1983.
15. Silvey S.D., *Statistical inference*, London: Chaman and Hall, 1995.
16. Satyamurthy, T.V., *Development Research and the Social Sciences in India since Independence*, Bergen: Chr. Michelsen Institute, 1984.
17. Varma, S.P., *Modern Political Theory*, New Delhi: Vikas, 1982.