**Course Title:**

**Research Methodology Part-1**

**Programme​ ​in​ ​which​ ​it​ ​is​ ​offered:​**

**​MA Public Policy and Governance**

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| **Course​ ​Category:​ ​Postgraduate Programme Schedule​ ​of​ ​Offering:​ ​Semester​ ​I**  **​**  **​Course Credits:​ ​[4]**  **● Lecture:​ ​[5​ ​hours​ ​per​ ​week]**  **● Tutorial:​ ​[1​ ​hour ​per​ ​week]**  **● Practical:​ ​[none]**  **Contact​ ​hours​ ​per​ ​week:​ ​[6 ​hours​ ​per​ ​week]**  **Course​ ​Instructor:​ ​ Course Code. EGCS 704** |

**1. Introduction**

An authentic research defines the quality of the Policy Paper and a popular policy is derived from facts and figures. This paper on Research Methodology will provide the foundation for research and take students through the basics of research design to advanced research techniques. This course will prepare students to evaluate the quality of existing research and pursue studies of their interest by addressing questions and applying techniques relevant to that subject.

**2. Course Objectives**

This​ course​ aims to

1. Distinguish between and identify different approaches to public policy research and apply them appropriately for a research question
2. Relate public policy research to public policymaking and implementation
3. Identify the steps in the research process and their purpose
4. Understand and apply appropriate approaches to technical issues such as sampling, measurement and study validity
5. Evaluate existing research for the merits of its research design
6. Design a research plan for addressing questions of interest

**3. Pre-requisites**

1. Graduation in any discipline

2. An elementary reading on Public Policy, Constitution of India and Indian Economics

3. Openness towards new schools of thoughts and an interest to keep you updated

**4. Readings**

There shall be no textbooks for this course. However, a set of readings has been identified under each module of the course. Students will be required to access these reading materials from the library repository and make their own reading compendium.

Readings of 30−40 minutes length may be assigned before every classroom discussion, either from the given set of materials or from external materials which are related to classroom discussion. This also means the evaluation method does not follow syllabus-examination pattern (kindly see section ‘Evaluation’ for better understanding), and therefore the reading materials are for the purpose of assisting in the formulation of concepts in the minds of students.

**5. Module-wise Topics**

**Module 1:** Introduction to Public Policy Research

**Topics:**

1. Research and Public Policy Interface
2. Output and Outcome of Research Process, Selection of Research Problem, Steps Involved in Selection of Research Problem, Evaluation of the Problem, Literature Review, Sources of Literatures
3. Components of Research Process, Formulating Research Questions, Types, Characteristics
4. Data Collection, Sources for Collecting Numbers and Creation of Numbers (analysis why and how), Case Studies

**Learning Objectives:**

1. To impart skills to plan and carry out Public Policy research

2. To provide the student with a strong foundation in Quantitative research methods

**Learning Outcomes:**

1. The student would be able to formulate specific research questions to critically evaluate Public Policy
2. The student would be able to identify the output and outcomes of the research process
3. The student would be able to design specific research methodologies

**References/Suggestive Readings:**

1. Halperin, Sandra and Heath Oliver. 2012. *Political Research Methods and Practical Skills*. New York: Oxford University Press.
2. Gupta, S.P. 2012. *Statistical Methods*. New Delhi: Sultan Chand and Sons.
3. Neuman, W. Lawrence. 2014. *Social Research Methods*. Library of Congress.
4. Kothari, C.R. 2019. *Research Methodology.* 4th ed*.*New Age Publications.
5. Bell, J.1993. *Doing Your Research Project: A Guide for First-Time Researchers in Education and Social Science*. Buckingham, UK: The Open University.

**Module 2:** Statistics in Public Policy Research I

**Topics:**

1. Data Collection and Arrangement, Sampling Methods, Choice of Variables, Idea and Significance of Statistical Distributions, Sampling and Sample Design Meaning of Sampling— Sampling Process, Essential and Methods of Sampling, Sampling Error, Methods of Data Collection—Primary and Secondary Data, Observation, Interview, Questionnaire, Schedule-sources of Secondary Data
2. Primary vs Secondary Research, Descriptive Methods in Quantitative Research, use of Descriptive Statistics in Policy Research, Steps in Data Processing, Editing, Coding, Classification, Transcription, Analysis of Data-interpreting Data
3. Inferential Methods in Quantitative Research, Correlation and Regression, Use of Inferential Methods in Policy Research

**Learning Objectives:**

1. The goal of the course is to equip students with the ideas and tools for evidence-based research on contemporary issues in public policy
2. To help the participants to critically examine public policy issues

**Learning Outcomes:**

1. The student will be able to understand the basic concepts in statistics and apply rigorous statistical techniques to critically evaluate issues in public policy
2. The course will help the student to understand the use and sensitivity of numbers in public policy research

**References/Suggestive Readings:**

1. Gupta, S.P. 2011. *Statistical Methods*. New Delhi: Sultan Chand and Sons.
2. Mann, S. Prem. 2013.*Introductory Statistics*. New Delhi: Wiley India.
3. Fitz-Gibbon,C.T. and L.L. Morris. 1987. *How to Analyse Data*. Newbury Park: Sage Publications, Inc.

**Module 3:** Statistics in Public Policy Research II

**Topics:**

1. Identifying Testable Hypotheses in Public Policy
2. Testing Hypothesis—Introduction to Testing Hypothesis Using Statistical Tools
3. Use of Excel & Programming Languages in Collection, Compilation and Analysis

**Learning Objectives:**

1. The goal of the course is to equip students with the ideas and tools for evidence-based research on contemporary issues in public policy
2. To help the participants to critically examine public policy issues

**Learning Outcomes:**

1. The student will be able to understand the basic concepts in statistics and apply rigorous statistical techniques to critically evaluate issues in public policy
2. The course will help the student to understand the use and sensitivity of numbers in public policy research.

**References/Suggestive Readings:**

1. Gupta, S. P. 2011. *Statistical Methods*. New Delhi: Sultan Chand and Sons.
2. Mann, S. Prem. 2013. *Introductory Statistics*. New Delhi: Wiley India.

**Term Paper:** Application of the Quantitative and Qualitative Methods Learnt

Each student is required to submit a paper, translating his/her theoretical knowledge into practical knowledge. Each student will be guided by a faculty. Students can do field visits and employ other methods like case study interviews, sampling surveys, data entry and analysis using software. Each student/group will be assigned a topic and the findings will be presented in front of a jury.

**6. Pedagogy**

The teaching methodology will be primarily lecture oriented, but in participatory brainstorming mode. Proper emphasis shall be given to prior reading and learning activities. Tutorial sessions shall be used to assist students in their analysis about subject matter presented to them through classroom discussions and​ ​reading​ ​materials. Topic-wise teaching pedagogy is mentioned in section 8.

**7. Evaluation​ ​Pattern**

Evaluation will follow a continuous evaluation pattern on a multiple component basis. The evaluation shall be based on the idea that a student should be able to showcase either a persistent commitment or a steady growth. Preferable mode of evaluation for each topic is mentioned in section 8.

Internal evaluation 50%

External Evaluation: 50%

**Internal evaluation**

Class participation -10%

Individual Assignment- 20%

Case study and Group presentation- 20%

**External Evaluation**

End Semester Exam/or Research project & Viva: 50%

**8. Session-wise Course Outline**

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| **Module 1: Introduction to Public Policy Research** | | | | |
| Units | Topics | No: of Hrs | Teaching Pedagogy | Mode of Evaluation |
| 1 | Research and Public Policy Interface | 2 | Lectures, discussions, videos | MCQ |
| 2 | Output and Outcome of Research Process Selection of Research Problem  Steps Involved in Selection of Research Problem, Evaluation of the Problem, Literature Review, Sources of Literatures | 3 | Lectures, problem-based learning and discussion | MCQ |
| 3 | Components of Research Process, Formulating Research Questions, Types, Characteristics | 3 | Interactive lectures, problem solving | MCQ |
| 4 | Data Collection— Sources for Collecting Numbers and Creation of Numbers (analysis why and how) | 3 | Problem-based learning | Written assignment |
| 5 | Case Studies | 4 | Case study presentation 1&2 | Written exam for 2 hours |

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| **Module 2: Statistics in Public Policy Research I** | | | | |
| Units | Topics | No: of Hrs | Teaching Pedagogy | Mode of Evaluation |
| 1 | Data Collection and Arrangement, Sampling Methods, Choice of Variables, Idea and Significance of Statistical Distributions, Sampling and Sample Design  Meaning of Sampling —Sampling Process, Essential and Methods of Sampling, Sampling Errors  Methods of Data Collection —Primary and Secondary Data, Observation, Interview, Questionnaire, Schedule, Sources of Secondary Data | 5 | Problem-based learning, discussions | MCQ, paper presentation |
| 2 | Primary vs Secondary Research, Descriptive Methods in Quantitative Research, Use of Descriptive Statistics in Policy Research  Steps in Data Processing, Editing, Coding, Classification, Transcription, Analysis of Data-interpreting Data | 5 | Interactive lectures, Q&A and discussions | MCQ |
| 3 | Inferential Methods in Quantitative Research, Correlation and Regression, Use of Inferential Methods in Policy Research | 5 | Problem-based learning and discussions | Written exams for 2 hours |

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| **Module 3: Statistics in Public Policy Research II** | | | | |
| Units | Topics | No: of Hrs | Teaching Pedagogy | Mode of Evaluation |
| 1 | Identifying Testable Hypotheses in Public Policy | 5 | Interactive lectures, videos and discussions | Critical essay and paper presentation |
| 2 | Testing Hypothesis—Introduction to Testing Hypothesis Using Statistical Tools | 5 | Problem-based learning | Data analysis exercise and presentation |
| 3 | Use of Excel and Programming Languages in Collection, Compilation and Analysis | 5 | Problem-based learning | Data analysis and presentation |
| 4 | Term Paper: Application of the Quantitative and Qualitative Methods Learnt | 15 | - | - |