

The Islamia University of Bahawalpur

Department of Political Science



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MA PS Semester 2nd Session Fall 2019-2021

Subject: Research Methods & Techniques Instructor: Arsalan Rasool

Class days: Tuesday 11:30 A.M. to. 01:00 P.M.

Thursday 11:30 A.M. to. 01:00 P.M.

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Course Outline

Course objective:

This course enables students to know about the important concepts of Research Methods and techniques. This course will be particularly focused on analyzing the nature and implications of some of the important areas of research methodology such as nature, types and phases of social research, formulation of statement of problem, formulation and testing hypothesis, measurement scales, research designs, sampling theory, data collection techniques, reporting, preparation of index, references and bibliography.

Learning outcomes:

This course aims to enable students to:

1. Understand and analyze the nature of research methods used for Public Administration, Public Policy and Government decision making.
2. Develop an understanding of several key areas of research methodology.
3. Critically analyze the application and effectiveness of various research methods.
4. Develop a sound understanding of the research methods in order to apply them.

Teaching Methodology:

1. The class will be conducted in a participatory environment where the class instructor will lead discussions, and students will be encouraged to participate and ask questions at the end of each class session.

2. Students will be expected to read the assignments in advance. This will be tested through the extent and frequency of student's participation in each class session.

Class Discipline:

1. In order to maximize class participation by all students, late arrivals will be marked absent; although they may like to attend the class. The best policy to avoid such a situation is never be late.
2. Similarly, early departure from the class will earn an absence to the student; unless leave is sought from the class instructor.

Books Prescribed:

1. Sekaran, U. (2003). Research Methods for Business: A Skill Building Approach. New York: John Willey & Sons.
2. Walliman, N. (2006). Social Research Methods, London: Sage Publications.
3. Yin, K.R. (2011). Qualitative Research from Start to Finish, New York: Guilford Publications.
4. Research Methodology: A step by step guide for beginners, 3rd edition by Ranjit Kumar.
5. Ramamurthy, G.C. (2015). Research Methodology. New Delhi: Dreamtech Press.

Course Contents

- Session-01 Definition, Importance and Application of Research
- Session-02 Types of Research
- Session-03 Research Process
- Session-04 Formulation and statement of problem
- Session-05 Reviewing the literature, sources of literature
- Session-06 Development of theoretical and conceptual framework
- Session-07 Formulation of research questions and objectives
- Session-08 Identifying study population, Establishing Operational Definitions
- Session-09 Identifying variables, defining variables, Types of Variables
- Session-10 Types of measurement scales
- Session- 11 Constructing hypothesis, types of hypothesis
- Session-12 Conceptualizing a research design: Definition, Functions

- Session- 13 Research design (Contd.)
- Session- 14 Selecting a study design: Qualitative, Quantitative
- Session-15 Types of study design (Contd.)
- Session-16 Quizzes/Cases/Assignments/Presentations

MID TERM EXAM

- Session-17 Constructing an instrument for data collection
- Session-18 Methods of Data Collection
- Session-19 Validation of research instrument
- Session-20 Content and criterion validity, concurrent and predictive validity
- Session-21 Selecting a sample: types of sampling techniques
- Session-22 Types of sampling (contd.)
- Session-23 Writing a research proposal: Contents, structure
- Session-24 Data Collection: Things to consider when collecting data
- Session-25 Data Collection (contd.)
- Session-26 Processing and analysis of data
- Session-27 Processing and analysis of data (contd.)
- Session-28 Interpretation of results
- Session-29 Writing research report: Findings and future recommendations
- Session-30 Index, references and bibliography
- Session-31 Use of software for references
- Session-32 Quizzes/Cases/Assignments/Presentations

FINAL TERM EXAMINATION

Testing & Grading

1. Learning will be accomplished through lectures, outside readings, case analysis and student participation in classroom discussion and presentation.

2. Grading will tend to focus on your overall performance rather than one or two aspects. A mid-term examination of 30 marks and a comprehensive final examination of 50 marks will be conducted.
3. Test questions may be taken from textbook reading, hypertext material, additional material discussed in class and/or other assigned readings.
4. Students may prepare notebook for taking notes and for reference.

Marks distribution

Assignments	05
Quizzes	05
Presentation	05
Attendance	05
Mid-term examination	30
Final-term examination	50
Total	<u>100 points</u>

Please note:

In the unlikely event of an unplanned absence by the instructor, the material to be covered during that class meeting will be shifted to the make-up class. If a test was scheduled for that class meeting; the test will be given during the next class meeting. In the event of any necessary planned absences, information on schedule changes will be provided in advance.

Appointment with Instructor:

The Instructor will be available in his office for meeting with class students during office hours.

COURSE INSTRUCTOR CONTACT DETAILS**Arsalan Rasool**

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