

NIAS Doctoral Programme Courses

2020-2021

Research Methodology Course 2020

The core Research Methodology course (RM) is designed so to give foundational training in research methods in the different disciplines. This will be a focused, coherent course that will cover the basic training in research methodologies in different disciplines. The RM course will also have as part of its structure special lectures on diverse research methods, feedback on the research problem, project management (learning billing and other administrative details) and library access. In these special sessions, other than the faculty who teach the course, the students will get an opportunity to interact with other faculty, administration and the librarian to understand the other complementary aspects of research.

Attendance is mandatory for this course in addition to spending at least 10 hours per week of dedicated reading. Please email the course instructor with a copy to Ms. Sandhya if you are unable to attend a session. If you are absent for more than two sessions, 5% of the total grade will be deducted. All assignments should be sent to the course coordinators and copied to Ms. Sandhya as well. For public holidays that fall on a Tuesday, make-up classes will be arranged to compensate for the lost days.

ASSIGNMENTS

Please take the assignments seriously as they help you in gradually shaping the rough draft of the proposal.

- Assignment #1: Literature Review and Choice of Research Question (~4 pages) [15%]
- Assignment#2: Choice of Research Design (~2 pages) [10%]
- Assignment #3: Research Methods (~3 pages) [15%]
- Assignment#4: Study Proposal Draft (~10 pages) [30%]

In all your writing assignments, follow appropriate guidelines for source citation paraphrasing etc to avoid plagiarism charges. Plagiarism is the worst form of academic infraction which can result in personal embarrassment and serious penalties. In rare cases, they also warrant expulsion from the PhD programme. The plagiarism-check software Turn-it-In is available in the library and with the NIAS faculty.

Course Coordinator: Sindhu Radhakrishna (sindhu@nias.res.in)

BASIS FOR GRADES

- Class Attendance: 10%
- Assignments: 70%
- Thesis proposal presentation:20%

Course Schedule: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10.30 am-12.00 pm

Sl No	Date	Topic /Theme	Faculty
1	Tue, Sept.15	Introduction to the Course	Sindhu Radhakrishna and Anitha Kurup
<i>Thursday, September 17, Mahalaya Amavasya</i>			
2	Thu, Sept. 22	Research Designs for Social Sciences	Anitha Kurup
3	Tue, Sept. 24	Research Designs for Natural Sciences	Sindhu Radhakrishna
4	Tue, Sept. 29	Research Designs for Humanities	Sharada Srinivasan
5	Thu, Oct. 1	Conceptualising a Research Study	Sindhu Radhakrishna and Anitha Kurup
6	Tue, Oct. 6	Significance of Literature Survey in Academic Research	Tarun Menon
7	Thu, Oct. 8	Library Research Session	Hamsa Kalyani
8	Tue, Oct. 13	Field Research & Sampling Techniques	Shalini Dixit
9	Thu, Oct. 15	Ethnography, Interviews and Participant Observation	Jeebanlatha Salam
10	Tue, Oct. 20	Questionnaire Survey	Jeebanlatha Salam
11	Thu, Oct. 22	Oral History Methods and Archival Research	Sharada Srinivasan
12	Tue, Oct. 27	Archaeological Research Methods	Sharada Srinivasan
13	Thu, Oct. 29	Animal Observation and Experimental Research	Sindhu Radhakrishna & VV Binoy
14	Tue, Nov. 3	Quantitative Analysis I: Statistical Inference, Hypothesis Testing, Types of data, Summary statistics	Harini Santhanam
15	Thu, Nov. 5	Quantitative Analysis II: Statistical tests (Single Comparison Tests and Tests of Association)	Harini Santhanam
16	Tue, Nov. 10	Quantitative Analysis III: Multilevel Models, Decision Tree Analysis	Amit Mukherjee
17	Thu, Nov. 12	Quantitative Analysis IV: Network Analysis	Lalitha Sundaresan
18	Tue, Nov. 17	Geospatial Data Visualization	M B Rajini
19	Thu, Nov. 19	Methods of Qualitative Analysis: Content Analysis; Discourse Analysis; Narrative Analysis and Grounded Theory	Shalini Dixit
20	Tue, Nov. 24	Mixed Method Approach	Anitha Kurup
21	Thu, Nov. 26	Case Studies of Mixed Methods Approach I: Food Networks and LCA	Radha Gopalan
22	Tue, Dec. 1	Case Studies of Mixed Methods Approach II: Nothing is what is seems : Studies from Conflict Zones	Suba Chandran
22	Thu, Dec. 3	Case Studies of Mixed Methods Approach III:	Tarun Menon
23	Tue, Dec. 8	Case Studies of Mixed Methods Approach IV: Human Dimensions of Wildlife	Asmita Sengupta
24	Thu, Dec. 10	Preparing for a Research Study	Sindhu Radhakrishna and Anitha Kurup
25	Tue, Dec. 15	Writing a Grant Proposal	Harini Santhanam
26	Thu, Dec. 17	Project Budgeting and Financial Management	P Srinivasa Aithal
27	Tue, Dec. 22	Examining Research Ideas	Sindhu Radhakrishna and Anitha Kurup
28	Thu Dec. 24	Proposal presentations	Sindhu Radhakrishna and Anitha Kurup
29	Tue. Dec. 29	Proposal presentations	Sindhu Radhakrishna and Anitha Kurup
30	Thu. Dec. 31	Proposal presentations	Sindhu Radhakrishna and Anitha Kurup

