

## **Approval: 6<sup>th</sup> Senate Meeting**

**Course Title** : Research Methodology in Social Science

**Course Number** : HS 522

**Credit** : 3-0-0-3

**Prerequisites** :

**Students intended for** : Ph.D.

**Elective or Compulsory** : Elective

**Semester** : Odd/Even

### **Course Preamble:**

This course will introduce the student to the philosophical foundations of social sciences as well as the main methods of research employed by scholars in the humanities and social sciences. The course will equip students with a practical knowledge of the different components of the research process in humanities and social sciences from a range of perspectives/approaches.

### **Course Content:**

#### **Module: I (16 lectures)**

##### **Philosophical Foundations of Social Science**

- a. Positivism, Behavioral Sciences and later developments in Social Science Thought (Sociological Thinkers and Psychologists)
- b. Idea of Social Sciences (Peter Winch/Charles Taylor)
- c. Idea of Human Sciences (Wilhelm Dilthey)
- d. Idea of Social Construction of Reality (Ian Hacking)
- e. Postcolonial Theory (Gayatri Spivak, Dipesh Chakrabarty, and Homi Bhabha)

#### **Module: 2 (12 lectures)**

##### **Approaches to Social Science Research**

- a. Content analysis
- b. Survey and field research
- c. Quantitative and qualitative analysis
- d. Case studies
- e. Ethical considerations in research

#### **Module: 3 (14 lectures)**

##### **Designing Research**

- a. Formulating appropriate research questions
- b. Hypothesis construction
- c. The literature review
  - i. Use of the literature
  - ii. Steps in conducting a literature review
  - iii. Citations, formatting and style
- d. The use of theory
- e. Approaches to Data Analysis
  - i. Induction
  - ii. Deduction
  - iii. Verification
  - iv. Falsification
  - v. Empiricism and Social Research
  - vi. Analytical dilemmas

**Reference books:**

1. The Idea of a Social Science and Its Relation to Philosophy (Routledge Classics), Peter Winch. Routledge. (2007)
2. Selected Works Volume I: Introduction to the Human Sciences. Wilhelm Dilthey, Rudolf A. Makkreel, and Frithjof Rodi. Princeton University Press. (1991)
3. The Social Construction of What? Ian Hacking. Harvard University Press. (2000)
4. Provincializing Europe: Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference. Dipesh Chakrabarty. Princeton University Press. (2007)
5. The Craft of Research, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Wayne C. Booth et al. University Of Chicago Press. (2008)
6. Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. J. W. Creswell. SAGE Publications, Inc (2013)
7. The Modern Researcher, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Jacques Barzun, Henry F. Graff. Cengage Learning. (2003)
8. Elements of Style. William Strunk, E. B. White, and Roger Angell. Longman. (1999)
9. Interpretation and Explanation in the Human Sciences. David Henderson. SUNY Press. (1993)
10. Classical Rhetoric for the Modern Student, 4th Ed., Edward Corbett and Robert Connors. Oxford University Press. (1998)
11. Rules for Writers, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Diana Hacker. Bedford/St. Martin's. (2011)