

INDIA ARAB CULTURAL CENTRE
Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

M. Phil/Ph.D International Studies Arab-Islamic Culture

Course Title:	Research Methodology
Duration:	One Semester
Credit:	4 credit/100 marks
Level of Teaching:	Post-Graduate
Method of Instruction:	Lectures, Discussions, Presentations
Mode of Evaluation:	Assignment and End-Sem Examination

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce the students to the world of research by exposing them to the theoretical, practical and ethical aspects of different research techniques. The course aims to equip students in understand three things: (a) the process of knowledge production/construction by focusing on the basic concepts in research in general, different research paradigms and academic streams in social sciences (b) context-specific understanding of knowledge production to be able to develop expertise in Area Studies and (c) practical aspects of research concerning data collection and analysis. The lectures and classes are particularly concerned with the question: how to understand social reality (ies) and contribute in the knowledge production.

Unit One: Area Studies Research

Area Studies-Growth and Epistemology
Interdisciplinary Nature
World systems and Regional Interconnectedness
Orientalism and its Criticisms

Unit Two: Research and Research Problem

Key Concepts in Research: Meaning-Value-Truth-Paradigm-Theory.
Overview of the Research Process – Identification of the research problem-Formation of research questions and hypothesis- Preparation of review of literature.

Unit Three: Approaches

Positivist
Scientific Inquiry-Objectivity and Subjectivity- Semiotics-Behaviouralism-Marxism-Structurism
Post-Positivist
Critical Theory - Post-modernism – Semiotics – Hermeneutics – Phenomenology – Post – Colonialism – Feminism – Neo - historicism

Unit Four: Methods

Empirical and Conceptual-Qualitative and Quantitative
Hypothetico Deductive-Historical Methods-Comparative

Descriptive-Experimental Evaluation –
The interpretist method-The reconciliatory method-Ethnographic method

Unit Five: Data Collection and Analysis

Primary data collection methods-Observation-interview-Questionnaire-Internet sources-
Experimental and Case studies-
Secondary data-Using internet for primary and secondary research
Analysing data-Overview of qualitative and quantitative data–Organizing and presenting data

Unit Six: Preparing the Research Proposal

Technical papers-Types of research proposal-The writing process-
Bibliographies-References and Footnotes

Schedule of Examination & Grading:

Midterm Exam	25 %
Final exam	75 %

Suggested Readings

- Habermas, Jurgen, *The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere: An Inquiry into a Category of Bourgeois Society* (Massachusetts: MIT Press, 1991)
- Horkheimer, Max, *Critical Theory: Selected Essays* (London: Continuum International Publishing Group, 1982)
- Kuhn, Thomas, 1996, *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions* (NY: University of Chicago Press, 1996)
- Levi-Strauss, Claude, *Structural Anthropology* (London: Basic Books, 1963)
- Lyotard, Jean-Francois, *The Postmodern Condition: A Report on Knowledge* (NY: University of Minnesota Press, 1984)
- Marx, Karl, *Capital: A Critique of Political Economy* (London: Casimo, Inc, 2007)
- _____ and Engels, Friedrich and Levitsky, Serge L. *Das Kapital: A Critique of Political Economy* (Skeptical Reader Series) (London: Regency Gateway, 1996)
- Popper, Karl Raimund, *The Logic of Scientific Discovery* (London and New York: Rutledge, 2002)
- Reinharz, Shulamit and Davidman, Lynn, *Feminist Methods in Social Research* (London: OUP, 1992)
- Said, Edward, *Orientalism* (London: Vintage Books, 1979)
- Searle, John R. *The Construction of Social Reality* (USA: Penguin, 1995)
- Potter, Jonathan, *Discourse analysis and the identification of interpretative repertoires* (https://www.researchgate.net/publication/232494229_Discourse_analysis_and_the_identification_of_interpretative_repertoires)
- Antaki, Charles (ed.) *Analysing Everyday Explanation: A Casebook of Methods* (London: Sage Publication, 1980)
- Hill, Michael R., *Archival Strategies and Techniques, Qualitative Research Method Volume 31* (London: Sage Publications, 2001)