

DSE 10: INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS  
IN GEOGRAPHY

Course Title and Code	Credits	Duration (per week)			Eligibility Criteria	Prerequisite
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS IN GEOGRAPHY	4	3	1	0	Class 12th	NIL

**Learning Objectives:**

- To introduce the student to the basics of geographical research methods
- To enable the student to appreciate the difference between various research approaches and methodologies, methods of data collection and analysis.
- To expose the student to different aspects of fieldwork from recruitment of participants, formulation of questionnaire and Interview Guides,
- To provide in depth knowledge of the different research techniques

**Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will acquire an understanding of different research methods and techniques in Geography.
- Students will be able to formulate a research design, carry out literature review, identify research gaps and state Research Questions and Hypothesis
- Students will be familiarized with data collection methods and techniques of analysis
- Students will be able to structure a report/ dissertation

**Course Content:**

**UNIT I: Introduction to Research Methods in Geography:** Types and Approaches to Research- qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods; Review of Literature, identifying research gaps (2 weeks/ 6 hrs)

**UNIT II: Research Design:** Stating the research problem, Research Question, Formulation of Hypothesis, Aims and Objectives and Selection of Research Site, Ethical considerations (2 weeks/ 6hrs)

**UNIT III: Techniques of Data Collection:** sources of data- primary and secondary, Thematic Data generation, sample size and sampling, introduction to instruments, and mobile apps, questionnaire and interview guides, observation schedules. (4weeks/ 12hrs)

**UNIT IV: Tools of Data Analysis:** Analyzing statistical data using software, modelling and statistical processing of data and overlay analysis, Coding and thematic analysis with Software for Qualitative Data Analysis (4weeks/ 12 hrs)

**UNIT V: Reporting Research Findings:** Structure of Reports, Dissertation, preparing an abstract, Referencing styles, using reference management software, AI and plagiarism checks (3 weeks/ 9 hrs)

**Reading List:**

1. Black, James A. and Champion, D.J. 1976. *Methods and Issues in Social Research*, John Wiley and Sons, New York.
2. Bonnett, Alastair, R. 2008. *What Is Geography?* Sage, London.
3. Creswell, J.W. 2009. *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches*, Sage, California, USA
4. Gopal, Krishan and Singh, Nina, 2016. *Researching Geography: The Indian Context*. Routledge, Delhi.
5. Harris, C. 2001. Archival Fieldwork, *Geographical Review*, 91(1-2), 328-334
6. Hart, C. 1999. *Doing Literature Review: Releasing the Social Science Research Imagination*, Sage, London.
7. Hay, I. 2010. *Qualitative Research Methods in Human Geography*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Oxford University Press, South Melbourne, Australia,
8. Lunsbury J.F. and Aldrich, F.T. 1979. *Introduction to Geographic Field Methods and Techniques*, Charles E. Merrill Publishing Company, Columbus.
9. Misra, R.P. 2015. *Research Methodology: A Handbook*, Concept Publishing Company, New Delhi.
10. Montello, Daniel R. and Sutton, P.C. 2006. *An Introduction to Scientific Research in Geography*, Sage Publications, London.
11. Oliver, Paul, 2004. *Writing Your Thesis*, Vistaar Publications, New Delhi
12. Preece, R. 1994. *Starting Research: An Introduction to Academic Research and Dissertation Writing*, Continuum, London.
13. Sharma, P.R., R. S. Yadava and Sharma, V.N. 2011. *Research Methodology: Concepts and Studies*, R. K. Books, New Delhi.
14. Stoddard, Robert H. 1982. *Field Techniques and Research Methods in Geography*, Kendall/Hunt for National Council for Geographic Education.

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