

### 3. Field Techniques and Surveying Methods

#### Course Objectives:

- 1) This course shall introduce the basic concepts in field work in geographical studies.
- 2) This paper shall elucidate about defining the field and identifying the case studies, field techniques.
- 3) This course shall provide detailed understanding related to questionnaire development and preparation of the field report.

#### Learning Outcomes:

- 1) This paper shall enable the students to understand fundamental concepts and issues related to field work in geographical studies.
- 2) This course shall enable the students to comprehend about field work and field techniques.
- 3) Students shall be well-versed with the development of questionnaire and writing the field report.

#### Course Contents:

1. Field Work in Geographical Studies – Role, Value and Ethics of Field-Work.
2. Defining the Field and Identifying the Case Study – Rural / Urban / Physical / Human / Environmental.
3. Field Techniques – Merits, Demerits and Selection of the Appropriate Technique; Observation (Participant / Non Participant).
4. Questionnaires (Open/ Closed / Structured / Non-Structured); Interview with Special Focus on Focused Group Discussions; Space Survey (Transects and Quadrants, Constructing a Sketch).
5. Designing the Field Report – Aims and Objectives, Methodology, Analysis, Interpretation and Writing the Report.

#### References:

#### Essential:

1. Creswell J. (1994). *Research Design: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. California, USA: Sage Publications.
2. Dikshit, R. D. (2003). *The Art and Science of Geography: Integrated Readings*. Delhi, India: Prentice-Hall of India.
3. Evans M. (1988) Participant Observation: The Researcher as Research Tool. In *Qualitative Methods in Human Geography*, (eds). J. Eyles and D. Smith, Polity. Mukherjee, Neela 1993. *Participatory Rural Appraisal: Methodology and Application*. New Delhi, India: Concept Pubs. Co.
4. Mukherjee, N. (2002). *Participatory Learning and Action: with 100 Field Methods*. Delhi, India: Concept Pubs. Co.
5. Robinson A. (1998). Thinking Straight and Writing That Way. In *Writing Empirical Research Reports: A Basic Guide for Students of the Social and Behavioural Sciences*, eds. by F. Pryczak and R. Bruce Pryczak, Publishing: Los Angeles.

**Suggestive:**

1. Special Issue on “Doing Fieldwork” *The Geographical Review* 91:1-2 (2001).
2. Stoddard R. H. (1982). *Field Techniques and Research Methods in Geography*. USA: Kendall/Hunt.
3. Wolcott, H. (1995). *The Art of Fieldwork*.CA, USA: Alta Mira Press.

**Teaching Learning Plan**

Week 1: Unit I

Week 2: Unit I

Week 3: Unit II

Week 4: Unit II

Week 5: Unit III

***Week 6: Mid-Semester Examinations***

***Week 7: Mid-Semester Break***

Week 8: Unit III

Week 9: Unit IV

Week 10: Unit IV

Week 11: Unit V

Week 12: Unit V

**Assessment Methods:**

Unit No.	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Activity	Assessment Tasks
1	Field Work in Geographical Studies – Role, Value and Ethics of Field-Work.	Classroom lectures and tutorials	Assignments, PPT, classroom test.
2	Defining the Field and Identifying the Case Study – Rural / Urban / Physical / Human / Environmental.	Classroom lectures and tutorials	Assignments, PPT, classroom test.
3	Field Techniques – Merits, Demerits and Selection of the Appropriate Technique; Observation (Participant / Non Participant).	Classroom lectures and tutorials	Assignments, PPT, classroom test.

4	Questionnaires (Open/ Closed / Structured / Non-Structured); Interview with Special Focus on Focused Group Discussions; Space Survey (Transects and Quadrants, Constructing a Sketch).	Classroom lectures and tutorials	Assignments, PPT, classroom test.
5	Designing the Field Report – Aims and Objectives, Methodology, Analysis, Interpretation and Writing the Report.	Classroom lectures and tutorials	Assignments, classroom test, end semester examination.

**Keywords:** Field Work, Field Techniques, Questionnaire, Report writing, Geographical Studies.