

**Programme:** M. A (Political Science)

**Course Code:** PSO202

**Title of the Course:** Research Methods in Political Science

**Number of Credits:** 4

**Effective from AY:** 2018-19

<b><u>Prerequisites for the course:</u></b>	Students should have studied B.A. Political Science or B. A. in any Social Sciences. It is assumed that students have a basic knowledge of what is research and how socio-economic and political issues are understood through exploration and research.	
<b><u>Objective:</u></b>	This paper intended to prepare the students to write a dissertation in the final year of M.A by first introducing them to the foundations of Political Science research. It then intends to provide an understanding of the research process, research design, statistical techniques, leading to report writing.	
<b><u>Content:</u></b>	<p><b>1. Foundations of Research:</b> a) Research: Pure and Applied b) Nature of Social Research c) The Problem of Objectivity in Social Research d) Approaches : i) Positivist ii) Post-Positivist</p> <p><b>2. State of Political Science Research:</b> a) The Big Issues b) Research in the Subfields of Political Science c) Research Ethics</p> <p><b>3. The Research Process: Major Steps in Research</b></p> <p><b>4. Research Topic and the Design of research: Types of Quantitative and Qualitative Designs</b></p> <p><b>5. Quantitative Research: a) Methods of Data Collection b) Processing and Analysis of Data</b></p> <p><b>6. Qualitative Research: a) Methods of Data Collection b) Processing and Analysis of Data</b></p> <p><b>7. Report Writing: a) Its significance b) Steps in writing report</b></p>	<p>10</p> <p>8</p> <p>6</p> <p>8</p> <p>6</p> <p>6</p> <p>4</p>
<b><u>Pedagogy:</u></b>	lectures/ tutorials/assignments/self-study/ field studies (dialogic and participatory collective learning and teaching)	

<b><u>References/Readings</u></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. David McNabb (2004), Research Methods for Political Science, New Delhi: Prentice Hall</li> <li>2. Gurpreet Mahajan (1992 ), Explanation and understanding in the human science, New Delhi: Oxford University Press</li> <li>3. Paulo Freire (1996 ), Pedagogy of the Oppressed, New Delhi: Penguin Books</li> <li>4.T.S. Wilkinson and P.L.Bhandarkar (1994), Methodology and Techniques of Social Research, Delhi: Himalaya Publishing House</li> <li>5. Ram Ahuja (2003 ), Research Methods, Jaipur: Rawat</li> <li>6.O.R.Krishnaswamy (2010), Methodology of Research in Social Sciences, New Delhi: Himalaya Publishing House</li> <li>7. Rai Praveen &amp; Kumar Sanjay (2013), Measuring Voting Behaviour in India, New Delhi: Sage Publication</li> </ol>	
<b><u>Learning Outcomes</u></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students will be able to understand the process of social science research with the knowledge of basic tools and techniques.</li> <li>2. Students will be able to apply research methods in their future pursuit of research.</li> </ol>	