

Programme : **Master of Commerce [M.Com]**
 Course Code : **COM-651**
 Course Title : **Dissertation**
 Number of Credits : **16**
 Effective from AY : **2022 – 2023**

Pre-requisites for the Course:

Research Methodology

Objectives of the Course:

1. To identify the research gap using extensive literature review and preparation of content analysis.
2. To identify the source of data, ways of collecting the data and applying relevant tools and techniques for analysing the data collected.
3. To develop a standard quality research report clearly showing all the relevant components of an effective report and preparing a working paper.

General Instructions

Stage 1	Research Problem Identification	60 Hours
---------	---------------------------------	----------

- Extensive Literature Review [Content Analysis – *If done systematically, this itself can be used for preparing a research paper*]
- Identification of Research Gap and Research Topic [Qualitative / Quantitative / Mixed]
- Identification of research journals where the result of the work can be submitted.
- Exploring the possibility of research collaboration with research scholars working in similar areas (within India and outside) & interacting with the identified research scholars about the proposed research problem, and ensuring research association. [*if possible*] [*by strictly following the academic and research ethics*]
- Making the weekly presentation of the progress made w.r.t.
 - WHAT needs to be researched [Research Topic]
 - WHY the research is relevant [Research Questions / Objectives / Hypotheses]
 - HOW the research is going to be completed [Data source / collection / analysis / interpretation]
- Preparation of Introduction and Literature Review Chapter [*Draft copy submission and revision*].

[During the period December-January]

Stage 2	Data Management [Source / Collection Methods / Tools and Techniques to be used]	60 Hours
---------	--	----------

- Preparation of methodology section [*Draft copy submission and revision*].
- Identification of Source of Data – Collection of Data [*by strictly following the academic and research ethics*] – Coding and Compilation of Data.
- Testing Normality, Validity, and Reliability of Data.
- Analysis and Interpretation of Data + Report Writing [*Draft copy submission and revision*].
- Making the weekly presentation of the progress made.

[During the period January-February]

Stage 3	Report Writing	60 Hours
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalization of Introduction, Literature Review and Methodology sections. Draft copy submission of Analysis & Interpretation section [<i>Draft copy submission, revision and finalization</i>]. Draft copy submission of Theoretical contributions, Practical and Managerial implications, and Suggestions for further research based on the Content Analysis and Data Analysis results – Revision and finalization. Final Copy of the Dissertation. [<i>by strictly following the academic and research ethics</i>] Making the weekly presentation of the progress made. <p style="text-align: right;">[During the period February-March]</p>		
Stage 4	Working Paper Writing	60 Hours
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparing the draft copy of the research paper in line with the identified journal submission requirements. [<i>by strictly following the academic and research ethics</i>] Sharing the draft copy of the paper with research collaborators (if any) – revising and finalizing the paper. Submission of the paper (<i>optional</i>) – Revising the paper based on reviewer comments (<i>if received on time</i>) – resubmission – final acceptance of the paper (<i>if received on time</i>) <p style="text-align: right;">[During the period March-April]</p>		

Pedagogy:

Discussion on relevant research papers – Case Studies – Periodic presentations on the progress of dissertation – Practicals on the tools and techniques used for data analysis – Discussions on methods used for data collection – assisting in data collection, validation, reliability, and analysis – assisting in carrying out Content Analysis, Report writing, Working paper writing, Plagiarism Testing, Article submission, and review process.

Reference / Readings:

1. Adrian Wallwork, *English for Writing Research Papers*, Springer. 2nd Edition, 2018.
2. David Evans, Paul Gruba, and Justin Zobel, *How to Write a Better Thesis*, Springer. 3rd Edition, 2019.
3. Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, The University of Chicago Press. 7th Edition, 2017.
4. Margret Cargill and Patrick O’Conner, *Writing Scientific Research Articles: Strategy and Steps*, Wiley Blackwell. (2017)
5. Simon Kendel, *How to write a Research Paper*, Bookboon.com. (2018).
6. Stephen Howe, *PhraseBook for Writing Papers and Research in English*, The Whole World Company Press. 4th Edition, 2017.
7. Wayne C. Booth; Gregory G. Colomb; Joseph M. Williams; Joseph Bizup; and William T. Fitzgerald, *The Craft of Research*, The University of Chicago Press. 4th Edition, 2016.

Research Papers:

- Justin Paul and Alex Raip Criado (2020), The Art of writing literature review: What do we know and what do we need to know? *International Business Review*, 29, 1-7 [<https://doi.org/10.106/j.ibusrev.2020.101717>]
- Thomas V. Perneger and Patricia M. Hudelson (2004), Writing a research article: advice to beginners, *International Journal of Quality in Health Care*, 16/3, 191-192