

Master of Library and Information Science (M.L.I.Sc)

Semester III

LIS - 600: Research Methodology

(4 Credits/100 Marks)

Course Description:

The course offers an overview of research methodology including basic concepts, types and planning of research, research design, research reporting employed in quantitative and qualitative research methods including the learning of statistical techniques and graphical presentation.

Learning Objectives:

To introduce the student to identify and discuss the role and importance of research in the library profession with the issues and concepts, salient to the research process, the complex issues inherent in selecting a research problem, along with selecting an appropriate research design and the knowledge of sampling, data collection, analysis and reporting.

Course Outline

Unit – I: Introduction to Research 10 Hours

Definition of Research; Need and Purpose, Characteristics of research.

Basic and Applied research

Criteria for a topic to be relevant for research

Research Methods, Research Design, Research Methodology for Library and Information Science professionals.

Current trends in LIS research.

Unit – II: Research Planning 10 hours

Planning process; Review of literature, Selection of problems for research, Mode of Selection, Process identification, Criteria of selection, Formulation of selected problem.

Hypothesis: Meaning, Types, Functions, Conceptualization. Essentials of good research design and its importance.

Ethical aspects of research.

Literature search-print and non-print and electronic sources.

Writing of research proposals.

Unit –III: Types of Research

10 hours

Research: Types, methods and techniques. Qualitative and Quantitative methods in Library and Information Science. Descriptive, Analytical, Fundamental, Applied, Action and Exploratory research.

Research methods: Observation, Questionnaire, Interview, Experimental and Case study. Survey methods, Content analysis, Bibliometrics.

Research Design: Need and purpose, Types of research design based on nature of investigation, based on data collection, based on reference period.

Research Plan: Need, Purpose and Plan. Types and Structure, Funding and Monitoring.

Unit – IV: Research Reporting Practice

30 hours

Research Reporting Practice: Research Reports and their types, Research Proposal, Plan outline, format and content, Drafting of Research Reports and final phase of physical production. Tools for research- Types of variables, Sampling Procedure, Types of Sampling. Data Presentation- Ordinal Data, Numerical /data.

Graphical Presentation: Line, Histogram, Frequency, Polygon, Curves, Bar diagrams and Charts.

Statistical Techniques: Measures, Central Tendency, Measures of Dispersion, Correlation, Regression analysis and Time Series Analysis.

Infographics: Open source tools, Style manuals.

Learning Outcomes:

After completing the course the student will understand the research terminology, literature search, different methods and approaches used towards research, ethical principles of research and will critically analyse any given topic in the library profession.

References and Further Readings:

1. Bell, J. &. (2018). *Doing your Research Project: a guide to first-time researchers*. London: McGraw-Hill Education.
2. Chandra, v. (2018). *Research Methodology*. Noida: Pearson India Education Services.
3. Chawla, D. (2011). *Research Methodology*. New Delhi: Vikas Publishing house.
4. Gorman, G. (2005). *Scholarly Publication in an Electronic Era*. London: Facet Publication.
5. Gupta, D. (2011). *Research Methodology*. New Delhi: PHI Publication.
6. Kothari, C. (2012). *Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques*. New Delhi: New Age International.
7. Kumar, C. R. (2012). *Research Methodology*. New Delhi: A P H Publishing Corporation.

8. Kurmar, R. (2015). *Research Methodology: A step -by –step guide for beginners*. New Delhi: Sage Publishing.
9. Oberoi, P. K. (2013). *Research Methodology*. New Delhi: Global Academic Publisher.
10. Panneerselvan, R. (2006). *Research Methodology*. New Delhi: Prentice-Hall of India.
11. Phanse, S. S. (2016). *Research Methodology Logic, Methods, and Cases*. New Delhi: OUP.
12. Taylor, B. (2008). *Research Methodology: A guide for research in Management and Social Sciences*. New Delhi: Prentice-Hall of India.