

## WOMEN'S STUDIES RESEARCH SPECIFIC ELECTIVE COURSES

**Programme: M. A Women's Studies**

**Title of the Course: DOING FEMINIST RESEARCH**

**Course Code: WST600**

**Number of Credits: 4**

**Effective from Academic Year: 2022- 2023**

<b><u>Course prerequisite:</u></b>	Registration in the M.A. Women's Studies Programme	
<b><u>Objective:</u></b>	This course will aim at equipping students with knowledge of research methods and techniques. The student will be introduced to the nature and purpose of doing feminist research, the politics of knowledge and knowledge creation and the different ways of knowing. They will be taken through the theoretical foundations of feminist research and a critique of conventional research. Feminist research positions both epistemological and methodological will be discussed.	
<b><u>Content:</u></b>	<b>Module 1:</b> What is research? Steps in social science research A critique of conventional research, limitations of methodology of social science, feminist empiricism vs positivism Research methods and methodology, Feminist standpoint, situated knowledge,	15 hours
	<b>Module 2:</b> Qualitative Research Methods: feminist ethnography narratives, oral history, discourse analysis, participatory and action research, focus group discussions, grounded theory, self-reflexivity, etc. Reviewing literature on a selected topic. Reference management software (zotero, mendeley, etc.)	15 hours
	<b>Module 3:</b> Using unconventional data sources. Research designs, sampling and qualitative data collection methods (case studies, survey, exploratory studies, diagnostic, experimental and action research).	15 hours
	<b>Module 4:</b> Proposal writing, conducting a pilot study and writing a report, Feminist research ethics, Research writing, academic writing skills, use of writing assistance software	15 hours
<b><u>Pedagogy:</u></b>	Lectures, assignments, self-study, documentaries and discussion, group readings and discussions, presentations	
<b><u>References:</u></b>	Biber Sharlene Nagy Hesse.2007, <i>Feminist Research Practice</i> . Thousand Oaks: Sage. Brooks, Abigail. 2007. <i>Feminist Standpoint Epistemology: Building</i>	

	<p><i>knowledge and empowerment through women's lived experience</i>, in Sharlene J. Nagy Hesse-Biber and Patricia Lina Leavy (eds.) <i>Feminist Research Practice: A Primer</i>, London: Sage Pub.</p> <p>Code, Lorraine. 1995. <i>How do we know? : Questions of method in feminist practice</i>, in Sandra Burt and Lorraine Code (eds.) <i>Changing Methods: Feminist Transforming Practice</i>, 13-44, Canada: Broadview Press.</p> <p>Delamont Sara and Paul Atkinson.2008.<i>Gender and Research</i>. Los Angeles: Sage.</p> <p>Denscombe Martyn. 2003. <i>The Good Research Guide for small scale Social Research Projects</i>. Second Edition. Philedelphia: Open University Press.</p> <p>Haraway, Donna, J. 1988. <i>Situated Knowledges: The Science Question in Feminism and the Privilege of Partial Perspective</i>. Feminist Studies,Vol.14, No.3 (Autumn), 575-599</p> <p>Harding, Sandra. 1987. Is there a Feminist Method? In <i>Feminism and Methodology</i>. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press. p 1-14</p> <p>Hughes Christina. 2002. <i>Key Concepts in Feminist Theory and Research</i>. London: Sage.</p> <p>Jarvlluoma Helmi.2003. <i>Gender and Qualitative Methods</i>. London: Sage.</p> <p>Kannabiran K &amp; Padmini Swaminathan (eds.). 2017. <i>Re-Presenting Feminist Methodologies: Inter-Disciplinary Explorations</i>. NY: Routledge.</p> <p>Kleinman, Sherryl. 2007. <i>Feminist Fieldwork Analysis</i>. Los Angeles: Sage Publications.</p> <p>Reinharz Shulamit &amp; Lynn Davidman.1992. <i>Feminist Methods in Social Research</i>. Oxford University Press</p> <p>Robert Helen.1986. <i>Doing Feminist Research</i>. London: Routledge.</p> <p>Stanley L. and Sue Wise.1993. <i>Breaking Out Again: Feminist Ontology and Epistemology</i>. London: Routledge.</p> <p>Tannen Deborah.1994. <i>Gender and Discourse</i>. New York: OUP.</p> <p>.</p>
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<b><u>Course Outcomes:</u></b>	Students at the end of the course will understand the research process and will develop skills in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Doing a review of literature and</li><li>2. Developing a research proposal which will be implemented in the following semester.</li><li>3. Students will be able to conduct a pilot study.</li></ol>
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