

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

**Title of the Course: RESEARCH METHODS AND ACADEMIC WRITING**

**Course Code: WST601**

**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>Objectives:</u></b>	This course will introduce students to basic statistical techniques and help them understand the frameworks for collecting, storing, analyzing, and disseminating data. Students will be exposed to different methods for summarizing and/or describing data with respect to central tendency, dispersion, and association. With the appropriate use of standard inferential procedures students will be able to make generalizations from sample data to a larger population. This course will equip the students to use statistical software to perform data analysis.	
<b><u>Content:</u></b>	<b>Module 1:</b> Review of Statistical Concepts Useful for Causal Inference: Population and Sampling. Statistics- Descriptive and Inferential. Describing datasets: summarizing data. Computing and Understanding Averages- Exercises based on data (creating different types of charts, applications). Understanding Variability- Exercise on computing mean, median, mode and SD, Variance. Comparing Correlation Coefficient. Types of data - cross-sectional, panel, pooled and time series	15 hours
	<b>Module 2:</b> Probability: Sample Space, Random Variable. Conditional Probability, Distribution Function, Probability Distributions: Discrete, Continuous and Sampling Distributions: Binomial, Poisson, Normal, Standard Normal, Student-T Chi-Square, F-distribution.	15 hours
	<b>Module 3:</b> Testing of Hypothesis-Null and Alternate, Type I & II errors. Statistically significant; Test of significance. Testing means and proportion-single and two population, Testing t, Z test, F, chi square test. Correlation & Regression. Covariance, Correlation, Rank Correlation. Using linear Regression-logic of prediction, Ordinary Least Squares (OLS), Gaussian Classical Model. Importing data set using GRETL -	20 hours

	<p>Estimation of model by method of OLS</p> <p><b>Module 4:</b> Academic Writing: Difference between academic writing and articles in popular newspapers and magazines. How to decide on your subject, the importance of research title and writing a proposal. Writing a chapter plan and getting started on your dissertation.</p>	10 hours
<b><u>Pedagogy:</u></b>	Lab exercises, assignments, presentations	
<b><u>References:</u></b>	<p>Berenson, M. L., Levine, D. M., &amp; Szabat, K. A. (2015). Basic business statistics: Concepts and applications (13. ed., global ed). Pearson</p> <p>Hood, S. (2010). Appraising research: Evaluation in academic writing. Palgrave Macmillan.</p> <p>Ross, S. M. (2006). Introductory Statistics. Elsevier.</p> <p>Salkind, N. J. (2017). Statistics for people who (think they) hate statistics (6th edition, international student edition). SAGE.</p>	
<b><u>Course Outcomes</u></b>	By the end of the course, students will be able to examine how quantitative data is produced, identify gender-related data gaps; & use analytics skills to uncover intersectional gender-based insights.	