



HISDSC404T

AN INTRODUCTION TO HISTORICAL RESEARCH METHOD

Contact Hours: 60

Full Marks = 100 [ESE (70) CCA (30)]

Course Objective: The course aims to provide students with an introduction to research methods and report writing. Upon successful completion of the course, they are expected to develop their understanding of various kinds of research, objectives of doing research, research process, research designs and sampling and have basic knowledge of qualitative research techniques.

Unit I: History as a subject:

- a) It's meaning and definition
- b) Nature and Scope
- c) Causation in History
- d) Its relations with Political Science, Sociology and Geography (12 Lectures)

Unit II: Sources for the Study of History:

- a) Archaeological sources
- b) Archival sources
- c) Oral and virtual sources
- e) Field studies (12 Lectures)

Unit III: Interpretations of Sources:

- a) Sources: Primary and Secondary
- b) Authenticity of Sources
- c) Interpretation of Facts
- d) Bias and Objectivity in History (12 Lectures)

Unit IV

Techniques of Research:

- a) Selection of subject
- b) Hypothesis
- c) Synopsis
- d) Chapterisation
- e) Footnotes and Reference
- f) Appendices & Bibliography (12 Lectures)

Unit V

Execution of Research:

- a) Collection of material
- b) Presentation of Evidence
- c) Documentation and references
- d) Preliminary draft and final draft (12 Lectures)

Expected learning outcomes:

After completing this course, the students will be able to acquire knowledge about various kinds of research, objectives of doing research, research process, research designs and sampling and have basic knowledge of qualitative research techniques.

Suggested Readings:

1. Ali B. Sheikh: History: Its Theory and Method, Macmillan India Limited, New Delhi, 1978.
2. Arthur Marwick, The Nature of History, London: Macmillan, 1989.
3. Bajaj Satish K: Research Methodology in History, new Delhi, 2000



4. E. Sreedharan, A Textbook of Historiography 500 BC to AD 2000, Orient Longman, 2004
5. E.H Carr: What is History, Penguin, 2008
6. Hockett, H.C: The Critical Method in Historical Research and Writing, 1966
7. Kothari, C.R. Research Methodology; Methods and Techniques, New Age International, 2004.
8. Kumar Ranjit: Research Methodology: A step by step guide for beginners, Sage Publication, 2004.
9. Postan, M.M: Fact and Relevance: Essay on Historical Method: Cambridge university, Press, 1971
10. Thomson, D. Renier, G. J : The Aims of History (London: James and Hudson, 1969)