

**Government Degree College (Autonomous), Baramulla**

**Syllabus  
BA(Hons) Public Administration  
Semester-VIII (Major)**

**Course Title:** Research Methodology  
**Course Code:** PADC3822M

**Credits: Theory:**04, **Tutorials:** 02  
**Contact Hours:** Th. 64, Tu. 32

**Course Objectives:**

- To introduce the fundamental concepts, significance, and types of research in social sciences.
- To develop understanding of research design, its components, and formulation of research problems and hypotheses.
- To familiarize students with research methods, data collection techniques, and sampling procedures.
- To equip students with basic skills in data analysis, report writing, and research ethics.

**Course Outcomes:**

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Explain key concepts, types, and ethical aspects of social science research.
- Design a basic research study, including problem formulation, objectives, and hypothesis development.
- Apply appropriate research methods, sampling techniques, and data collection tools.
- Analyze data using basic techniques and prepare structured research reports with academic integrity.

**UNIT-I(Introduction)**

1. Meaning and Significance of research in Social Sciences.
2. Objectivity in Social Science Research.
3. Difference between various types of research: Fundamental, Applied, Descriptive, Analytical; Quantitative and Qualitative; Conceptual, Empirical; Exploratory and Historical Research.
4. Research Ethics: Need and Importance.

**UNIT-II (Research Design)**

1. The concept and meaning.
2. Types: Exploratory, Descriptive and Experimental
3. Purpose and Characteristics.
4. Components: Research Problem, Review of Literature, Hypothesis and Research Objectives.

**UNIT-III (Research Methods)**

1. Research methods in Social Sciences: Quantitative, Qualitative and Mixed.
2. Primary and Secondary Data: Advantages and Disadvantages
3. Sampling: Major types of Probability and Non-Probability Sampling
4. Methods of Data Collection: Case Study, Questionnaire, Interview and Observation.

#### **UNIT-IV (Data Analysis & Report Writing)**

1. Methods of Data Analysis: Quantitative Tools and Computer Programmes.
2. Report Writing: Types, format and principles
3. Accessories of Report Writing: Front matter and back matter.
4. Ethics: Plagiarism, Intellectual Honesty and Intellectual Property Rights.

#### **TUTORIALS: 2 Credits**

##### **UNIT-V**

- Group discussion: "Can research ever be fully objective?"
- Practice writing objectives & hypotheses.

##### **UNIT-VI**

- Design a short questionnaire.
- Write a mini research report.

#### **Suggested Readings:**

Bhattacharjee Anol; (2011); Social Science Research: Principles, Methods and Practices, University of Florida, U.S.A.

Caltung, John; (1980); Theory and Methods of Social Research.

Dawson, Catherine; (2002); Practical Research Methods; UBS Publishers and Distributors, New Delhi.

Durrant, G. Bissel; (2004); A Typology of Research Methods Within Social Sciences.

Kothari, C.R.; (2004); Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques; New Age International Publishers Pvt.Ltd. New Delhi.

Kumar, Ranjit; (2005); Research Methodology: A Step-by-Step Guide for Beginners; (IIInd Edition); Pearson Education, Singapore.

Mahmood, Aslam; (1992); Statistical Methods in Geographical Studies; Rajesh Publications, New Delhi.

Misra, R.P.;(1988); Research Methodology: A Hand Book; Concept Publishing Company, New Delhi.

Nicholas, Walliman (...); Your Research Project (IIInd Edition); Vistar Publications, New Delhi.

Pierce, Roger (2008); Research Methods in Politics: A Practical Guide; Sage Publications, New Delhi.

Sadhu, A.N, Singh Amarjit; (1980); Research Methodology in Social Sciences.

Saravanvale, P. (1991); Research Methodology, 15, Thornhill Road, Allahabad.

Sharma, R.D. (1988); Research Methods in Social Sciences.

Somekh Bridget, Cathy Lewin (2004); Research Methods in Social Sciences; (1st Edition); Sage Publications Ltd. New Delhi.

Neuman Lawrence W., 1997, Social Research Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches, Boston, Allyn and Bacon.