PhD Course Work
Syllabus

*(As per the PhD Regulation of 2023,
with effect from Session July 2023)*

2023

Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University
Guwahati (Assam)

Course 01
Research Methodology
(Total Credit 4)

Unit 1   **Basics of Research**
Meaning and Significance of Research, Philosophical Foundations of Research – Questions of Ontology, Epistemology, Methodology; Approaches to Research; Types of Research; Research Methodology and Methods

Unit 2   **Research Design**
Idea and Need of Research Design; Levels and Principles of Research Design; Operationalisation of Concepts; Processes and Steps of Research Design; Types of Research Design

Unit 3   **Review of Literature**
Meaning and Significance of Review of Literature; Literature Review and Identification of Research Gap; Methods of Conducting Literature Review, Methods of Citation and Referencing

Unit 4   **Research Problem and Hypothesis**
Identification and Statement of Research Problem; Principles and Properties of Problem Statement; Concepts of Hypothesis and Research Questions; Formulation of Hypothesis and Research Questions; Methods of Testing of Hypothesis

Unit 5   **Collection of Data**
Meaning and Types of Data; Methods of Data Collections; Sources of Secondary Data; Designing a Primary Survey; Determination of Required Sample Size; Types of Sample and Method of Sampling; Interpretation of Sample Results

Unit 6   **Basic Quantitative Analysis**
Idea and Issues of Quantification; Concept of Scale and Issues of Measurement – Reliability and Validity; Collection of Quantitative Data; Introduction of Elementary Quantitative Analysis – Measures of Central Tendency, Dispersion, Using Graphs and Diagrams; Presenting Data in Tables and Interpretations

Unit 7   **Basic Qualitative Analysis**
Idea and Process of Qualitative Analysis; Epistemological Foundations of Qualitative Research; Major Paradigms of Qualitative Research; Strategies, Processes and Methods of Qualitative Research; Using of Literature in Qualitative Research; Issues Related to Qualitative Analysis

Unit 8   **Contemporary Issues in Conducting Research**

Eurocentrism and Indigenous Knowledge System; Emerging Trend of Decolonisation of Knowledge; Theoretical and Empirical Research; Policy Oriented and Action Research; Research Funding and Question of Autonomy, NEP 2020 and Research

Course 02
Computer Applications and Research Ethics
(Total Credit 4)

Part I: Computer Application (Total Credit 2)

Unit 1   **Using MS-Word for Research Publication**
Introduction to MS-Word as Word Processor, Setting and Formatting Page Layout, Formatting Texts and Paragraphs, Working With Tables and Graphs along with Texts, Integrating Mathematical Equations, Creating Table of Contents, Referencing and Index

Unit 2   **Using PowerPoint for Making Effective Presentation**
Principles and Elements of Academic Presentations, Fundamentals of Designing Slides – Use of Fonts and Colours, Various Slide Lay-Outs, Controlling the Slide Master, Inserting Objects and Pictures, Working with Templates, Customisation and Using Animations

Unit 3   **Using Tools and Applications of Managing References**
How to Manage References and Bibliographic Details for Research, Introduction to Automated Referencing and Bibliographic Software – How to Use Zotero and Mendeley with Ms-Word for Efficient Referencing

Unit 4   **Using Internet for locating scholarly resources**
Fundamentals of Scholarly Internet Searching, Access to Various Resources through Jstor, Sciencedirect, Ebscohost etc., Using Goggle Scholar and Goggle Ngram Viewer, Various Internet Communities for Providing Open Access Scholarly Resources

Part II: Research Ethics (Total Credit 2)

Unit 5   **Introduction to Ethics**
Introduction to Philosophy and Ethics; Idea of Ethics and Ethical Concerns; Moral Philosophy; Nature of Moral Judgements and Reactions

Unit 6   **Ethics and Scientific Conduct**
Ethics in Scientific Research; Intellectual Honesty and Research Integrity; Scientific Misconduct – Falsification, Fabrication and Plagiarism; Redundant Publication; Selective Reporting and Misrepresentation of Data

Unit 7   **Publication Ethics**
Publication Ethics – Definition, Introduction and Importance; Best Practices, Standards and Guidelines – COPE, WAME etc.; Conflict of Interest; Publication Misconduct – Definition, Concept and Problems that Lead Unethical Behaviour; Violation of Publication Ethics, Authorship; Complains and Appeal; Predatory Publishers and Journals; Plagiarism software – Urkund, Turnitin etc.

Unit 8   **Databases and Research Matrix**
Indexing Databases; Citation Databases – Web of Science, Scopus; Impact Factor and Journal Citation Report – SNIP, SJR, IPP, Citescore; Matrices – h-index, g index, i10 index, latmatrices

Course 03
Interdisciplinary Issues and Perspectives
(Total Credit 4)

Unit 1   Nationalism and Democracy in India
Idea of Nation and Nationalism; Nationalism in India – Perspectives and Trends; Ethnicity and Nationalism; Nationalism and Regionalism – Growth and Trends; Democracy and Indian Constitution; Issues of Autonomy and Various Constitutional Provisions; Challenges to Nationalism and Democracy in India

Unit 2   Perspectives on Development, Poverty and Inequality
Contesting Ideas of Development; Concept Human Development; Approaches to Sustainable Development; Poverty as Deprivations – One-dimensional as well as Multi-dimensional; Why Inequality Matters; Understanding Inequality of Opportunity and Inequality of Outcome

Unit 3   Gender and Social Inequality
Understanding Gender; Gender and Social Inequality; Gender and Issues of Representation, Participation and Empowerment; Gender and Work; Gender and Culture; Gender-based Violence; Introduction to Feminism – Context, Genesis and Evolution; Issues of Third Gender; Understanding Inter-sectionality

Unit 4   Literature and Society
Literature, Culture and Society; Literary Traditions and Forms; Understanding Literature as a Product of Social Processes; Studying Literature as Source of Understanding Society; How Social Class, Ethnicity, Gender, Age, and Sexuality Influence Literary Interpretations

Unit 5   Emerging Scientific Realities
Development of Science, Technology and Society; Disaster, Climate Change – Idea and Implications; Virtual Reality and Augmented Virtual Reality; Technology and Media; Social and New Media; Artificial Intelligence and Future of Mankind

Unit 6   Understanding North East India
North East India in the Historical Context; Common Perspectives on North East India; North East and Its Neighbours; Contemporary Issues and Concerns

Unit 7   Indian Knowledge System
Veda, Vedanta, Purana, Epics, Ayurveda, Darshana and Arthasastra