



**Indian Council of
Social Science
Research, New Delhi**



**Department of Psychology,
Tripura University (A Central University)
Suryamaninagar, Agartala-799022 Tripura**

**Ten Days Research Methodology Course for M. Phil/Ph.D./ PDF Scholars in Social
Sciences. Sponsored by Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi
Duration: April 22-May 1, 2019**

About the course:

Research is a main criterion for deciding the quality of a university. The top universities/institutions in the world (e.g., Harvard University, Stanford University, Yale University, and Oxford University) are known for their excellence in research training and publication. As a result many talented students in India would be interested to enroll for research degrees in these universities. This is one of the reasons for the lack of quality research in many institutions/universities in India. One may also argue that a university is known by the new ideas discovered through research by its research students and the faculty members. A university will stand nowhere if its students and faculty members do not have the motivation and skills for conducting ground-breaking research. Sometimes we find some students or teachers who are not working in premiere universities/institutions but they have excellent research training and publication; such researchers are known and respected by their fellow researchers across the world. This is where one has to understand the magic of high quality research.

It is in this context that there is a dire need to conduct high quality research methodology training for the budding research students who will be the future of the academic world. Specialized training conducted by experts from different disciplines (e.g., psychology, economics, management, sociology, education) of social sciences will give various aspects of conducting research. It is also hoped that the students may get more motivation when they are exposed to the research culture of diverse social science subjects. For example, psychology students may come to know that some issues in economics may also be addressed by psychologists and vice versa. Moreover, the student participants will themselves interact with each other, and such interaction may provide additional learning opportunity. Generally, students get the opportunity to understand social issues from the perspectives of various disciplines, and research collaboration may be developed among the students from different disciplines. Management students may like to collaborate with psychology or sociology students in understanding conflicts at the workplace.

In social science research we have the opportunity to address several important issues in the country. For instance, one may address poverty, health care issues, impact of urbanization, generation gap as a results of fast development, impact of social media, economic growth, political stability/instability, motivation to improve public hygiene,

motivation to utilize government schemes for improving wellbeing, improving national internal security, dealing better in international issues, climate change, improving rural economy, employable skills, and finally national development. In fact, social science research may effectively respond to the effective development of policy at various levels.

Therefore, the objective of the course is to provide training in the following broad areas:

a) *Developing skills for conceptualizing a novel research proposal*: A good beginning is important for completing a work successfully. One has to decide whether the research is done merely for obtaining only a research degree or advancing knowledge. If the motivation of conducting research is based on the first factor, then it would be impossible to conceptualize a novel research proposal. Because the motivation is extrinsic and extrinsic motivation may not be able to provide quality research output. However, if the motivation for conducting the research is based on the second factor, then there is intrinsic motivation and is a good beginning. Such research would be generally of better quality. Sometimes we come across that students with moderate academic background are doing better research than the students with good academic background. One of the possible reasons for this situation may be attributed to the association of intrinsic motivation or extrinsic motivation with the students. When one does research with a passion then the result is likely to be excellent. Intelligence is important but not enough in conducting a good research because the attitude toward research and the kind of motivation may shape the quality of the research.

b) *Developing skills for review of literature*: Students often think of a research topic and start searching for relevant literature to prepare a research proposal. Hence, there is a question mark on the quality of the proposed research work. One has to first develop a habit of reading extensively and find a gap in the literature to propose for a good research proposal. This is where we need to talk about the training to be imparted to the students for effective literature review. One may conduct review of literature in a qualitative or quantitative manner. Students should also be taught how to identify good sources of literature.

c) *Developing skills for the development of a suitable research design*: In social science we may use quantitative technique, qualitative technique or mixed method for conducting a research. In some subjects like psychology research is predominantly based on quantitative technique but in other subjects like sociology research is predominantly based on qualitative technique. Choosing a particular technique is up to the researcher but effective use of the research technique is a must for meaningful execution of the research. Research design is the road map of any research, so it has to be well designed if the research has to complete its journey.

d) *Developing skills for using appropriate statistical techniques*: Researchers who depend on quantitative technique must have good knowledge of the different available statistical techniques. Besides, what is more important is to understand which statistics is suitable for a variety of hypothesis testing. One may have knowledge of how to manually compute t-test or Carl Pearson Correlation, but in research this is not enough. One has to understand the exact application of such statistics as and when it is required in any research work.

e) *Developing skills for using statistical software to conduct statistical analysis*: These days there are variety of statistical software available. The most commonly used is perhaps SPSS (Statistical Software in Social Sciences). Until and unless we are familiar with statistical software like SPSS we will often encounter huge difficulty in advancing the progress of our research. Manual computation of a particular statistics for analyzing the research data is

almost impossible in large scale survey research. Therefore, students will be given some exposure in this regard.

f) *Developing skills for effective interpretation of the statistical results:* Many students learn the use of statistical software like SPSS for the computation of statistical techniques like regression analysis or factor analysis but they lack in their knowledge of the interpretation of the results generated by the software. This is mainly because of the poor knowledge of theoretical aspect of the statistics. So, students should be sensitized to have some theoretical knowledge of the statistics so that they may interpret the results provided by the software. Otherwise, the results remain merely as a set of numbers which have no meaning. We may enter any number and ask the software to compute some statistical analysis. The software will do its jobs but the output will be meaningless. So, it may become like some garbage is entered into the system and some garbage is released as output. In order to prevent such pathetic situation developing skill for effective interpretation of the statistical results is a must.

g) *Developing some skills for effective theoretical interpretation of the results:* This stage of the research is generally for writing discussion of the research paper. It is often assumed that the way we write the discussion of the research paper may actually decide whether the research is a novel one. Before writing the discussion we need to first identify the journal so that we may write the paper according to the objective of the journal. Some researchers also believe that we may conduct any kind of research by following a good research design but whether the research report is publishable or not is decided mainly on the basis of the way we write the introduction and the discussion. So, writing the discussion is very crucial stage of any research work. Once such logic is fully developed in the minds of the students there may be more motivation for preparing a good discussion of the paper.

h) *Developing serious understanding of the research ethics:* There may be different aspects of research ethics. One such aspect is the issue of plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious ongoing problem in the country. There are many instances of research publications in which there is a high amount of plagiarized text. But one must know that plagiarism may force to lose the registration of the research student and job of the employee.

i) *Developing skills for writing a good research paper:* It is known to many of us that many of the research conducted in social sciences in India are in need of uplifting the quality. It is often said that most of the social science research in the country is replication of the Western research published in good journal. The main reason for the replication in our research is the lack of high quality research training in our universities and institutions. This leads us to think that rigorous training in the research methodology is the need of the hour. Recently, Indian Council of Social Science (ICSSR) has taken up a new direction in social science research by encouraging researchers to focus their energy in the area of impactful policy research in social science (IMPRESS). The present proposed methodology training of research scholars would supplement the skills required for IMPRESS among the students in the immediate future.

Highlights of the Course:

Some of the areas to be covered in the course include a) types of research, b) research design, c) ethics in research, d) multivariate analysis, e) non-parametric statistics, f) statistical package, g) research proposal writing, h) writing up research article, i) publication process.

Who may apply?

MPhil/ PhD/PDF scholars in social sciences who are currently undergoing research in UGC recognized colleges, universities, deemed universities, institutes of national importance, and ICSSR Research Institutes.

How to apply?

Scholars who are interested are invited to submit the filled applications (downloadable from the Tripura University website: www.tripurauniv.in) along with a latest CV, a one or two pages write-up on students' current research focus, and a consent letter issued by the parent Department of the University/College/Institute by e-mail (tupsychology2019@gmail.com) and speed post on or before **March 8, 2019**. Copies of self attested supportive documents-i) SC/ST/OBC certificate, ii) Graduation mark-sheet, iii) PG mark-sheet, iv) MPhil (if applicable), v) PhD degree, and vi) 1000 words write-up on your current research work.

Accommodation and travelling allowance

Travelling allowance in terms of train fare in sleeper class (to and fro) will be provided to the selected participants. A twin sharing basis accommodation at TU Guest House would be provided to the outstation participants only.

Registration Fee: There is **no registration fee**.

Certificate of participation: Candidates who attend all the sessions will be given certificate of attendance.

Seats: 30 only

Important dates

March 8, 2019 (Last date of form submission)

March 25, 2019 (date of acceptance notification)

Some of the Resource Persons

- a) Damodar Suar, PhD
Professor, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
& Vinod Gupta School of Management
Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, Kharagpur-721302, West Bengal,
India
- b) Professor Manas Kumar Mandal,
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, Kharagpur-721302, West Bengal, India

- c) Prof. Narender K. Chadha,
Former Professor and Head, Department of Psychology, University of Delhi.
- d) Dr. Debdulal Dutta Roy, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Psychology
Psychology Research Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata -700108
- e) Professor Kumar Ravi Priya
Professor of Psychology, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, Kanpur 208016, Uttar Pradesh, India

Sponsored by:

Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India, New Delhi.

Organized by:

Prof. Nutankumar S. Thingujam (Course Director) and Dr. C. Lalfakzuali (Co-Course Director), Department of Psychology, Tripura University, Agartala.

Venue: New Guest House, Tripura University.

For further information, contact

1. Prof. Nutankumar S. Thingujam, HOD & Course Director, Email:
thingujam@gmail.com, Mob. +91 8145145250.
2. Dr. C. Lalfakzuali, Assistant Professor and Course Co-Director, Email:
afaki210@gmail.com, Mob: +91 98628895536

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 <p>Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi</p>	<p>Department of Psychology, Tripura University (A Central University)</p> <p>Suryamaninagar, Agartala – 799022 Tripura</p> <p>Email: tupsychology2019@gmail.com</p>
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**10-Day Research Methodology Course for M. Phil/Ph.D./PDF Scholars in
Social Sciences**

(Sponsored by ICSSR), (April 22 to May 1, 2019)

APPLICATION FORM

Paste your
passport
size
photograph here

A. Personal Information

1. Name (in block letters): _____
2. Date of Birth: _____ Sex: Male / Female _____
3. Social Category: (SC/ ST/ OBC/ Minority) _____ (Attach the supporting certificate)
4. Whether physically challenged: Yes/ No. If yes, attach proof.
5. Educational qualification: _____
6. Subject of post graduation: _____ Department _____
University _____

7. M.Phil. / Ph.D. program (Tick relevant) Status : Not enrolled / Enrolled / Awarded (Tick relevant)

Date of enrollment / Award: _____

Topic of MPhil/ PhD:

University: _____

8. JRF/ NET/ SLET : _____

9. Knowledge about Basic Statistics / Computer : Yes / No

10. Knowledge about any Statistical Software Package: Yes/No (If Yes, Name _____)

11. No. of Publications (If any): Research papers _____ Books _____

12. Give details of the following programmes if attended:

a) Research Methodology Course: _____

b) Capacity building programme: _____

c) Have you ever attended any course here in Tripura University _____. If yes, furnish details:

13. Would you require accommodation during the programme? : Yes/ No

14. Address for correspondence: _____

Phone no. : Residence _____ Mobile _____ Email: _____

B. Details of Employment (If Employed)

Designation: _____ Department: _____

Date of joining: _____ Field of specialization: _____

Name and address of the affiliating university / college / institute: _____

_____ Phone no. (office): _____

Enclosures:

- Kindly furnish your CV separately with your application form.
- Kindly attach recommending / forwarding letter from the Head/Principal. A relieving letter from the concerned authority must be produced at the time of joining the course for working candidates.
- Write up (1000 words) on current research.

Incomplete applications, in any respect, shall be liable to be treated as cancelled.

I hereby declare that all the information mentioned above in this Application Form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Place: _____

(Signature of the Applicant)

Date: _____

The application form with all enclosures should be submitted to:

Research Methodology Programme for Social Science, Department of Psychology, Tripura University, Suryamaninagar, Agartala-799022 (Tripura) by Registered Post. However an advance copy may be sent over email to: tupsychology2019@gmail.com on or before **March 8, 2019**.

For any queries, please contact to Prof. Nutankumar S. Thingujam, Course Director, Email: thingujam@gmail.com, Mob. +91 8145145250.

Applications received after this date or not forwarded by appropriate authorities will not be considered.

Note: Attendance is compulsory for all 10 days and no leave will be allowed during this course.

Certificate of Recommendation by the Head of the Department/Principal

I recommend Dr./ Mr./Ms _____

(Designation) _____ (Institution) _____ to attend the ICSSR sponsored Research Methodology Programme for Research Scholars/Faculty Members in Social Sciences at Department of Psychology, Tripura University, Suryamaninagar, Tripura during April 22-May 1, 2019. He/She will be relieved on time to participate in the above course, if selected.

Date: Signature of HOD/Principal/Director/Registrar

With office seal

A relieving letter from concerned authority to this effect must be produced at the time of joining the course.