

SW 459 Social Work Methods (Part I: Qualitative Methods)

L	T	P	Cr
2	0	0	2

Course Objectives

- Understand the nature, scope and significance of research in social work practice.
- Develop competence in conceptualizing, designing and implementing research using methods and techniques.
- Understand the nature and application of alternative research paradigms in a practice profession like social work.

Learning Outcome:

- Develop research attitude and aptitude in basic research process
- Conceptualize, design and develop researchable problems in a systematic and scientific way
- Identify researchable area/topic in social work

COURSE CONTENT

Unit I: Foundation of Social Work Research

- Meaning of research; Types of research
- Scientific method: Nature and characteristics, application of scientific method to the study of social phenomena.
- Social Research and Social Work Research: Meaning, nature and its significance.
- Similarities and differences between Qualitative and Quantitative research paradigms

Unit II: Research Process

- Steps in research process; Research design and Types
- Research Problem: Identifying the research Problem ;Formulation of Research problem
- Concept of Hypothesis – Role and Formulation of Hypothesis
- Sampling design: Concepts, characteristics and types of sampling, limitations of sampling.
- Sources, Methods and tools of data collection.
- Data processing, data analysis and interpretation
- Writing research reports: Guidelines for presenting tabular data and visual Representations, Interpretations of Results

Unit III: Research Approaches, Techniques and Conduct

- Approaches to Qualitative Research: Ethnography, Narrative, Phenomenological, Grounded Theory, Case Study, Content Analysis and Discourse Analysis
- Participatory rural appraisal: Principles, methods and application
- Research Ethics
- Plagiarism: Styles of referencing, citing and paraphrasing

Textbooks:

Bryman, A. (2003). *Research methods and organization studies* (Vol. 20). Routledge.

Laldas D.K. 2000, *Practice of Social Research: Social Work Perspective*. New Delhi: Rawat Publications

Additional Readings:

Ahuja, R. (2001). *Research methods*. rawat publications.

Atkinson, P., Coffey, A., Delamont, S., Lofland, J., & Lofland, L. (Eds.). (2001). *Handbook of ethnography*. Sage.

Bailey, K.D. 1982 *Methods of Social Research*. New York: The Free Press.

Black, J.A. & Champion, D.J. 1976 *Methods and Issues in Social Research*. New York: John Wiley.

Boateng, W. (2012). Evaluating the efficacy of focus group discussion (FGD) in qualitative social research. *International Journal of Business and Social Science*, 3(7).

Burns, R.B. 2000 *Introduction to Research Methods*. New Delhi: Sage Publications.

Chambers, R. (1994). Participatory rural appraisal (PRA): Challenges, potentials and paradigm. *World development*, 22(10), 1437-1454.

Chambers, R. (1994). The origins and practice of participatory rural appraisal. *World development*, 22(7), 953-969.

Chambers, R. (2004). *Participatory rural appraisal: methods and applications in rural planning: essays in honour of Robert Chambers* (Vol. 5). Concept Publishing Company.

Chambers, R. (1994). Participatory rural appraisal (PRA): Analysis of experience. *World development*, 22(9), 1253-1268.

Creswell, J. W., & Clark, V. L. P. (2017). *Designing and conducting mixed methods research*. Sage publications
Denzin, N. & Lincoln, Y. (Eds.) 1994 *Handbook of Qualitative Research*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications.

Dobbert, M.L. 1982 *Ethnographic Research: Theory and Application for Modern Schools and Societies*. New York: Praeger.

Ellis, C. (2007). Telling secrets, revealing lives: Relational ethics in research with intimate others. *Qualitative inquiry*, 13(1), 3-29.

Galtung, J. (1967). *Theory and methods of social research*. Universitetsforlaget.

Gillham, B. (2005). *Research Interviewing: The range of techniques: A practical guide*. McGraw-Hill Education (UK).

Grinnell Jr, R. M., & Unrau, Y. (2005). *Social work research and evaluation: Quantitative and qualitative approaches*. Cengage Learning.

Goode, W.J. & Hatt, P.K. 1952 *Methods in Social Research*. New York: McGraw Hill Book Company, Inc. Jane, R. & Jane, L. 2003 *Qualitative Research Practice: A Guide for social science students and researchers*. New Delhi, Sage Publication.

Johnson, R. B., Onwuegbuzie, A. J., & Turner, L. A. (2007). Toward a definition of mixed methods research. *Journal of mixed methods research*, 1(2), 112-133.

Kothari, C. R. (2004). *Research methodology: Methods and techniques*. New Age International.

Krueger, R.A. 1988 *Focus Groups: A Practical Guide for Applied Research*. Newbury Park: Sage Publications.

Minichiello, V., Aroni, R., & Hays, T. N. (2008). *In-depth interviewing: Principles, techniques, analysis*. Pearson Education Australia.

Meho, L. I. (2006). E-mail interviewing in qualitative research: A methodological discussion. *Journal of the American society for information science and technology*, 57(10), 1284-1295.

Resnik, D. B. (2015). *What is ethics in research & why is it important*. National Institute of Environmental health sciences. Ryan, F., Coughlan, M., & Cronin, P. (2009).

Interviewing in qualitative research: The one-to-one interview. *International Journal of Therapy and Rehabilitation*, 16(6), 309-314.

Padgett, D. K. (2016). *Qualitative methods in social work research (Vol. 36)*. Sage publications.

Peled, E., & Leichtentritt, R. (2002). The ethics of qualitative social work research. *Qualitative social work*, 1(2), 145-169

Tashakkori, A., & Creswell, J. W. (2007). *The new era of mixed methods*.