



# Netaji Subhas Open University

## School of Professional Studies

Ph.D. in Social Work (PHDSW)

Course Curriculum/Syllabus of Course Work

(Effective from January 2024)

Semester	Paper	Course	Marks	Credit
I (Six Month)	Course-I	Group A- Research Methodology & Review of Literature	70	4
		Group B- Research and Publication Ethics	30	2
	Course-II	Discipline Specific Course (Social Work)	100	6
Total			200	12

**Full Marks:** 200 Marks (12 Credits)

**Pass Mark:** 50% in each paper/course and 55 % in aggregate

**Duration:** One Semester (6 Months)

**Medium of Instruction:** English

**Programme/Course Coordinator:** Dr. Monojit Garai, Assistant Professor of Social Work, NSOU

### Detailed Syllabus for Course Work

#### Course I A: Research Methodology & Review of Literature

(FM-70)

##### UNIT-I: Social Science Research

- Social Research: meaning, nature, objectives, need and importance
- Scientific Inquiry, Scientific Approach in Social Research
- Research Paradigms – Epistemology, Ontology, Axiology and Research Methods
- Research Process: Formulating a research problem, concepts, constructs, abstraction, stages of research, research questions, pilot study
- Theory in Research: Significance of a theoretical perspective/framework in research
- Literature Review: Significance, Sources of Literature/Review, Use of E-resources, Systematic review of literature and Bibliographic Study, Finding and consolidating Research Gaps, Setting Research Objectives
- Types of Research: Basic & Applied Research, Action Research, Longitudinal & Cross-sectional Research, Quantitative & Qualitative Research, Mixed Methods Research.

## **UNIT-II: Introduction to Research Methodology**

• Variables: Concept, Construct, Indicators and Variables - Types of variables - Independent variables, Dependent variables, Categorical and Continuous, Quantitative variables, Qualitative variables, Intervening variables, Moderating variables, Extraneous variables, Confounding variables, Control variables, Composite variables; • Hypothesis: Need and Importance, Different Types- Research Hypothesis, Null, Alternate, Directional, Testing of Hypothesis, Alpha and Beta Error, Tools for testing. • Levels of measurement: Nominal, Ordinal, Interval, Ratio and Scale • Research Designs: Different approaches - Exploratory, Descriptive, Explanatory, Experimental Research, Observational • Sampling: Population, Sample, Universe, Sample size, Sampling techniques, Characteristics - inclusion and exclusion criteria, Random and non-random sampling, • Data Collection: different types of data, sources of data, Primary and Secondary • Methods of Data Collection: Interview, Questionnaire, Experiment, Focused Group Discussions, Surveys, Observation, Case study, PRA, RRA, Web based surveys, dealing with response errors, sensitive questions and non-responses • Designing Questions: Closed-Open ended, wording of questions • Tools of Data Collection: Structured, Semi-Structured, Unstructured, Schedule, Questionnaire, Guide, Checklist • Inventory: Use of standardized scales/ instruments; Reliability and Validity. Issues in using standardized scales - copyrights, scoring. Standardization of tools and factor analysis.

## **UNIT-III: Qualitative Research**

• Introduction: meaning, basic aspects and theories in Qualitative Research • Approaches to qualitative inquiry: Case study, Ethnography, Grounded Theory, Narrative Approach, Phenomenology, Action Research, Transformative Research • Methods of data collection: types & sources of data and data recording procedures in qualitative research design • Qualitative Data Analysis: Thematic analysis, Content Analysis, Conversation Analysis, Discourse Analysis, Narrative Analysis, Qualitative Comparative Analysis • Techniques in Data Collection: Transcription, Data Extraction, Coding, Themes, Critical incident Technique, • Computer in Qualitative Research: Software and Open-Source Tools in Qualitative Research.

## **UNIT-IV: Quantitative Research**

• Introduction to Quantitative Research: meaning, basic concept, • Quantitative Research Designs in Descriptive, Longitudinal, Correlational and Experimental Research • Probability: Theory, Principles of Probability Distribution; Normal Distribution, Sampling & Normal Distribution • Statistics and Data Processing: meaning and significance of statistics, Data processing, Use of Computers, Software & Open Source Tools in Data Processing, • Data management, analysis and presentation: Classification and Tabulation of Data, Frequency Distribution, Histograms, Pie charts, Bar diagrams, Frequency Polygon etc. • Basic Statistics: Measures of central tendency, Measures of dispersion. Meaning, uses, and computation of mean, median mode, range, quartile deviation, standard deviation etc. • Inferential Statistics: Meaning, assumption, uses, computation and interpretation • Testing of Hypothesis - Basic Principles in testing of Hypothesis, Assumptions in Testing; Parametric & Non Parametric tests; Errors in Testing, Chi square, Z test, Student 't' test, 'F' Statistics, Analysis of Variance (ANOVA), post-hoc tests, Analysis of Covariance (ANCOVA). Wilcoxon Signed Rank test, Rank Correlation, Mann-Whitney 'U', Kruskal Wallis 'H'. • Bivariate Data Analysis and Multivariate Analysis – Pearson's Correlation coefficient, Linear Regression, General Linear Models -

Univariate & Multivariate Repeated Measures. • Recent Advances: Data Mining, Big Data Analytics, Social Media Research.

#### **UNIT-V: Mixed Methods Research**

• Evolution and Theories of Mixed Method Research • Components of Mixed Method Research: meaning and purpose • Types of Mixed Method Research: Convergent, Concurrent or Parallel Design, Embedded Design, Exploratory Sequential Design, Explanatory Sequential Design, Complex Mixed and Multiple Method Designs • Sampling and Data Collection in mixed method designs, Data analysis and Point of Integration in Mixed method Research • Validation in MMR - Triangulation

### **Course I B: Research and Publication Ethics**

**(FM-30)**

**Unit-I: Philosophy, Ethics & Scientific Conduct** a. Introduction to Philosophy: Definition, Nature and Cope, Concept, Branches b. Ethics: Definition, Moral Philosophy, Nature of Moral Judgments and Reactions, a. Ethics with respect to science and research b. Intellectual honesty and research integrity c. Scientific misconducts: Falsification, Fabrication, and Plagiarism (FFP) d. Redundant Publications: Duplicate and Overlapping Publications, Salami Slicing e. Selective Reporting and Misrepresentation of Data.

**Unit-II: Publication Ethics** a. Publication Ethics: Definition, Introduction and Importance b. Best Practices/ Standards Setting Initiatives and Guidelines: COPE, WAME, etc. c. Conflicts of Interest d. Publication Misconduct: Definition, Concept, Problems that lead to unethical behaviour and vice versa, types e. Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributionship f. Identification of publication misconduct, complaints and appeals g. Predatory publishers and journals.

**Unit-III: Open Access Publishing** a. Open Access Publications and Initiatives b. SHERPA/RoMEO online resource to check publisher copyright & self-archiving policies c. Software Tool to identify predatory publications developed by SPPU d. Journal finder/ journal suggestion tools viz. JANE, Elsevier Journal Finder, Springer Journal Suggested, etc.

**Unit IV: Databases and Research Metrics** a. Indexing and Citation Databases: Web of Science, Scopus, Crossref, Google Scholar, Research Gate, Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), EBSCO, ProQuest, SCImago etc. b. Impact Factor of Journal as per Journal Citation Report, SNIP, SJR, IPP, Cite Score d. Metrics: h-index, g index, i 10 indexes, altmetrics.

### **Course II: Advance Social Work Theory & Emerging Areas of Practice**

**(FM-100)**

#### **Unit-I: Professional Social Work:**

Social Work as a Profession: Values and Ethics in Social Work Practice; Evolution of Social Work Profession, Historical Development of Social Work Education and Practice in West and India; Professionalization of Social Work in India, International Social Work, Challenges to Professional Social Work, Professional Associations of Social Work-International, National and Regional. Status of Social Work Profession in India, Social Work Profession in changing contexts, Micro, Mezo and Macro level of contexts. Social Policy and Advocacy, National Council of Social Work (Education and Practice) Bill, 2020.

#### **Unit-II: Approaches and Models of Social Work Practice:**

**Approaches:** Systems, Ecological, Evidence-Based, Strengths based Perspective, Rights based Approach, Task Centered and Problem-Based, Multiculturalism and Postmodern Social Work, Rational choice theory, Feminist Theories, Critical and Radical Theories, Client/Person Centered Approach, Structural Social Work Approach, Anti Discriminatory & Anti Oppressive Practice, Integrative Approach, Generalist Social Work Practice, Empowerment & Advocacy Based Social Work Practice, Ethics of Care, Green Social Work, Social & Community Development Model, Indigenous Social Work Practices.

**Models:** Problem-Solving, Family therapy, Group therapy, Crisis-Intervention, Cognitive Behavior, Psycho-Social, Therapeutic and Developmental, Social Learning, Psycho-dynamic development theory.

### **Unit-III: Areas of Social Work Practice**

- Public Health
- Youth Development
- Gender Development
- Women and Child Development
- Gerontological Social Work
- Person with disability
- Community Development (Urban/Rural)
- Tribal Development
- Ecology and Development
- Social Defense and Correctional Services
- Disaster Management
- Working with Marginalized & Vulnerable groups
- Emerging areas of practice

### **Unit-IV: Assignment (Library Visit, Field Work, Literature Review and Seminar Presentation)**

- Library Orientation and Online Databases
- Literature Review/ Book Review/Research Article Review
- Article and Seminar Paper Presentation
- Research Proposal Writing and Presentation, Research Report
- Abstract and Synopsis writing
- Research Article writing and publication in Peer Reviewed/Refereed Journal
- Citation, Footnote, Endnote, Referencing, Bibliography
- Issues of Plagiarism

### **Suggested Readings:**

- Das, D. K. Lal (2008). Practice of Social Research: Social Work Perspective. Jaipur: Rawat Publication.
- Alston, Margaret. (2003). Research for Social Workers an introduction to methods, Rawat: Jaipur
- Bell, Linda. (2017). Research Methods for Social Workers, Palgrave: UK.
- D'Cruz H and Jones M. (2014). Social Work Research in Practice, Sage: UK
- Lal. Das D.K (2017). Approaches to Social Science Research Methods, New Royal Book (Co): Delhi
- Rubin, Allen et. al. (2006). Essential Research Methods for Social Work. California: Wadsworth Inc.

- Taylor, Brian. (2015). Understanding and Using Research in Social Work. Sage: London.
- Ahuja, Ram (2001) Research Methods, Jaipur: Rawat Publication.
- Alston, M. Bocoles, W. (Indian Edition 2003) Research for Social Workers-An Introduction to Methods, Jaipur : Rawat Publication
- Black. Thomas (2001). Understanding Social Science Research. New Delhi: Sage Publication
- Padgett, D. (2017). Qualitative Methods in Social Work Research. New York: Sage (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition/ original 1998)
- Banks, S: Ethics and Values in Social Work (Macmillan Press Ltd, London-1995)
- Bhattacharya, Integrated Approach to Social Work in India, Jaipur: Raj Publishing House.
- Dash, B.M. & Roy, S. (2016). Field Work Practice in social work Education, New Delhi, Atlantic Publisher, ISSN. 2016.
- Friedlander, W.A. (2010) Concepts and Methods of Social Work, Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall.
- Encyclopedia of Social Work, Vol, 1&2 (2010). Ministry of Welfare, New Delhi
- Wadia, A. R. (Ed.) (1961) History and Philosophy of Social Work in India, Bombay: II Allied Publisher Private Ltd.
- Bhattacharya, Sanjay (2003). Social Work: An integrated Approach. Deep and Deep Publication: New Delhi
- Dominelli, Lena. (2009). Introducing Social Work. Polity: Cambridge
- Thompson, Neil., and Stepney, Paul. (2018). Social work theory and methods: the essentials, Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group: New York.
- Payne, M. (2015). Modern Social Work Theory. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.
- Dayal, P. (2013). Gandhian Philosophy of Social Work: New Perspectives on Objective, Direction and Methods, New Delhi: Atlantic.
- Dworkin, J. (2005). Advanced Social Work Practice: An Integrative, Multi-Level Approach. Michigan: UOM
- Gray, M. & Webb, S. A. (2009). Social Work: Theories and Methods. New Delhi: Sage Publications India Pvt. Ltd.
- Social Work Treatment: Interlocking Theoretical Approaches, Sixth Edition (2017), Edited by Francis J. Turner, Oxford University Press, New Work.
- Smith, D. (January 2003). Five Principles for research ethics. APA Cover Story, Vol. 34, No. 1 p. 56. <https://www.apa.org/monitor/jan03/principles>
- UGC (2018). UGC (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2018. New Delhi: University Grants Commission. [https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/7771545\\_academicintegrityRegulation2018.pdf](https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/7771545_academicintegrityRegulation2018.pdf)
- APA (2017). Section 8: Research and Publication. Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct. Washington DC: American Psychological Association. <https://www.apa.org/ethics/code/ethics-code-2017.pdf>