MALAVIYA NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

1. Course Code: **21 HST 901**

2. Course Title: **Research Design: Inquiry and Discovery**

3. Course Hours: L $\boxed{2}$ T $\boxed{0}$ P $\boxed{0}$

4. Credits: $\boxed{2}$

5. Pre-requisites: Basic idea of research and exploration.

6. Course Objectives:

> - To impart comprehensive understanding of research process.
> - To create awareness regarding theoretical and methodological approaches of research.
> - To enhance capacity regarding rigor and bias throughout the research cycle.

7. Course Outcomes:

> - Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the different stages of research.
> - Demonstrate an awareness of the range of the theoretical and methodological approaches relevant to social science research.
> - Address issue of rigor and bias throughout the research cycle.

8. Course Contents:

> **Module 1: *Getting Ready for Research-*** Use of tools for Research: methods to search required information effectively, computer-assisted data collection, Reference Management Software like Zotero/Mendeley, Software for paper formatting like LaTeX/MS Office, Software for detection of Plagiarism.
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> **Module 2: *Research Paradigms* –** Descriptive, Interpretative and Relational research, Matching research question with the research design, issues relating to research questions, the need (or not) for Hypotheses, Developing concepts, Establishing relationships between outcomes and key casual factors, connection with literature review.
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> **Module 3: *Framework for research and research design-*** Evidence-based synthesis, building strong conceptual frameworks, Critical review of literature , Developing effective analysis and argument, use of evidence to substantiate the central claim that answer the research question
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> **Module 4: *Data Collection-*** Exploring Data: Concept of Measurement and scaling, Primary, Secondary Data, Large data set and their extraction-use of Administrative Sources like Census, NFHS and NSSO, Establishing validity and reliability of data. Questionnaire design, Survey designs, Visual Methods, Qualitative data collection: Participant & Non-Participant Observation, Ethnography, Focus group discussions, Narrative Inquiry, Art-based methods

9. Suggested Readings:

Booth, W.C., Colomb, G. G., and Williams, J.M. (1995). The Craft of Research. Chapter 7 and 8 (pages 88 – 110).University of Chicago Press, Chicago and London

Cottrell, Stella (2011) Critical Thinking Skills: developing effective analysis and argumentation. Palgrave Macmillan.Chapters 4 and 10.

Cottrell, Stella (2011) 'Where's the proof: finding and evaluating sources of evidence' in Critical Thinking Skills:developing effective analysis and argumentation. Palgrave Macmillan. Chapter 8.

Crano, W. D., Brewer, M. B., & Lac, A. (2014). *Principles and methods of social research*. Routledge

Doing a literature search: a comprehensive guide for the social sciences, by Chris Hart, Chapters 1 and 2.

Gerring, J. (2011) Social science methodology: A Unified Framework. 2nd edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 2 and 8.

Gerring, J. (1999) What Makes a Concept Good? A Criterial Framework for Understanding Concept Formation in the Social Sciences. Polity, 31(3) 357-393.

Goertz, G. (2006) 'Introduction', in Social science concepts: a user's guide, Chapter 1. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, pp. 1-24

Hart, C. (1998) 'Writing the review', in Doing a literature review: releasing the social science research imagination,Chapter 7. London: SAGE Publications, pp. 172-206.

Outhwaite, W., & Turner, S. (Eds.). (2007). *The SAGE handbook of social science methodology*. Sage.

Weston, Anthony (1992) A rulebook for arguments. (2nd edition) Hacket Publishing Company, Indianapolis/Cambridge