



UNIVERSITY OF KERALA

Discipline	POLITICAL SCIENCE				
UK4DSCPOS200	UK4DSCPOS200				
Course Title	Research in Political Science				
Type of Course	DSC				
Semester	4				
Academic Level	200-299				
Course Details	Credit	Lecture per week	Tutorial per week	Practical per week	Total Hours/Week
	4	4 hours	-	-	4
Pre-requisites	1. 2.				
Course Summary	This course in political science research covers the foundational aspects of conducting research in the field, including the nature and significance of research, qualitative and quantitative methodologies, and research ethics. It delves into developing and formulating research problems, including literature reviews, research questions, and hypothesis formulation. Additionally, it explores various research methods such as surveys, case studies, and ethnography, as well as data processing, analysis, and proper citation and referencing practices.				

Detailed Syllabus:

Module	Unit	Content	Hrs
I		What is Political Science Research?	14
	1	Nature and significance of research in Political Science	
	2	Qualitative and Quantitative research	
	3	Research Process (Steps involved in research)	
	4	Research Ethics and Plagiarism	
II		Developing and Formulating the Research Problem	10
	5	Review of Literature-Importance	
	6	Research Questions/Objectives	
	7	Concepts, Variables and Hypothesis	
	8	Synopsis Writing	
III		Research Methods in Political Science	16
	9	Survey, Case study, Ethnography	
	10	Sources of Data (Primary and Secondary)	
	11	Methods of Data collection –Observation, Questionnaire, Interview, Document Analysis	
	12	Sampling- Probability and Non-Probability sampling	
IV		Data Processing and Analysis	8
	13	Editing, Coding, Classification and Tabulation,	



	14	Dissertation-Structure and format	
	15	Citation and Referencing (APA style)	
V	Crafting a Political Science Research Synopsis		12
	16	This module is designed to equip students with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively craft a research synopsis in the field of Political Science. Through a combination of conceptual discussions, practical exercises, and peer feedback sessions, students will learn the key components of a compelling research synopsis and develop the ability to articulate their research ideas with clarity and precision.	

Essential Readings

- Bernard, R. H. (2012). *Social Research Methods*. Sage.
- Creswell, J. W. (2012). *Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design*. Sage.
- McNabb, D. E. (2010). *Research Methods for Political Science: Quantitative and Qualitative Approach*. M.E Sharpe.
- De Vaus, D. (2002). *Surveys in Social Research*. Routledge.
- De Vaus, D. (2001). *Research Design in Social Research*. Sage.
- De Vaus, D. (2002). *Analyzing Social Science Data*. Sage.
- Denzin, N. K. (2011). *The Sage Handbook of Qualitative Research*. Sage.
- Fielding, J. (2002). "Coding and Managing Data." In N. Gilbert (Ed.), *Researching Social Life*. Sage.
- Flick, U. (2011). *Introducing Research Methodology: A Beginner's Guide to Doing a Research Project*. Sage.
- Gilbert, N. (Ed.). (2002). *Researching Social Life*. Sage.
- Johnson, J. B., Reynolds, H. T., & Mycoff, J. D. (2016). *Political Science Research Methods*. Sage.
- William, & Hatt, K. P. (1952). *Methods in Social Research*. McGraw Hill Book Company.
- Healey, J. (2005). *Statistics: a Tool for Social Research*. Thomson Wadsworth.
- Johnson, J. B., & Reynolds, H. T. (2012). *Political Science Research Methods*. CQ Press Publication.
- Kirk, J. M. (1986). *Reliability and Validity in Qualitative Social Research*. Sage.
- Kothari, C. R. (2008). *Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques*. New Age International.
- Kumar, R. (2013). *Research Methodology: A Step-by-Step Guide for Beginners*. Pearson.
- Lewins, A. (2002). "Computer Assisted Qualitative Data Analysis." In N. Gilbert (Ed.), *Researching Social Life*. Sage.
- Marsh, C. (1982). *The Survey Method: The Contribution of Surveys to Sociological Explanation*. Unwin Hyman.
- Mukherji, P. N. (2000). *Methodology in Social Research*. Sage Publications.
- Robson, C. (2002). *Real World Research*. Blackwell Publishers Ltd.
- Singh, R. (2018). *Fundamentals of Research Methodology*. Kalyani Publishers.
- Seale, C., et al. (1999). *The Quality of Qualitative Research*. Sage.
- Young, P. V., & Schmidt, C. F. (2001). *Scientific Social Surveys and Research*. Prentice Hall.



Course Outcomes

No.	Upon completion of the course the graduate will be able to	Cognitive Level	PSO addressed
CO-1	Understand the fundamental principles and significance of research in political science, including ethical considerations and the distinction between qualitative and quantitative methodologies.	U, An	PSO1
CO-2	Develop the ability to formulate and refine research problems, articulate clear research questions and objectives, and construct viable hypotheses based on theoretical frameworks.	U, Ap, E	PSO5
CO-3	Gain and demonstrate proficiency in various research methods used in political science, including surveys, case studies, ethnography, and data collection techniques such as observation, questionnaire design, interviews, and document analysis.	Ap, An, E	PSO5
CO-4	Acquire and apply skills in data processing and analysis, including editing, coding, classification, tabulation, and interpretation of findings to draw meaningful conclusions.	Ap, An, E, C	PSO2
CO-5	Demonstrate competency in academic writing by structuring and formatting dissertations effectively, adhering to citation and referencing standards (such as APA style), and critically evaluating and synthesizing existing literature to contribute original insights to the field of political science.	Ap, C	PSO10

R-Remember, U-Understand, Ap-Apply, An-Analyse, E-Evaluate, C-Create
Note: 1 or 2 COs/module

Name of the Course: Research in Political Science
Credits: 4:0:0 (Lecture: Tutorial: Practical)

CO No.	CO	PO/PSO	Cognitive Level	Knowledge Category	Lecture (L)/Tutorial (T)	Practical (P)
CO-1	Understand the fundamental principles and significance of research in political science, including ethical considerations and the distinction between qualitative and quantitative methodologies.	PO2/PSO1	U, An	F	L	-



CO-2	Develop the ability to formulate and refine research problems, articulate clear research questions and objectives, and construct viable hypotheses based on theoretical frameworks.	PO1/PSO5	U, Ap, E	P	L	P
CO-3	Gain and demonstrate proficiency in various research methods used in political science, including surveys, case studies, ethnography, and data collection techniques such as observation, questionnaire design, interviews, and document analysis.	PO3/PSO5	Ap, An, E	C	L	P
CO-4	Acquire and apply skills in data processing and analysis, including editing, coding, classification, tabulation, and interpretation of findings to draw meaningful conclusions.	PO1/PSO2	Ap, An, E, C	C	L	P
CO-5	Demonstrate competency in academic writing by structuring and formatting dissertations effectively, adhering to citation and referencing standards (such as APA style), and critically evaluating and synthesizing existing literature to contribute original insights to the field of political science.	PO2/PSO1 0	Ap, C	M	L	P

F-Factual, C- Conceptual, P-Procedural

M- Metacognitive



Mapping of COs with PSOs and POs

	PS O1	PSO 2	PSO 3	PS O4	PS O5	PSO 6	PSO 7	PSO 8	PS O9	PS O10	PO 1	PO2	PO3	PO4	P O5	PO 6
CO 1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
CO 2		-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
CO 3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
CO 4	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
CO 5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-

Correlation Levels:

Level	Correlation
-	Nil
1	Slightly / Low
2	Moderate / Medium
3	Substantial / High

Assessment Rubrics:

- Quiz / Assignment/ Quiz/ Discussion / Seminar
- Midterm Exam
- Programming Assignments
- Final Exam

Mapping of COs to Assessment Rubrics:

	Internal Exam	Assignment	Project Evaluation	End Semester Examinations
CO1	✓	✓	-	✓
CO2	✓	✓	-	✓
CO3			-	✓



	✓			✓
CO4	✓	✓	-	✓
CO5	✓	✓	-	✓

