

ALLAMA IQBAL OPEN UNIVERSITY, ISLAMABAD
(Department of Home & Health Sciences)

Course: Research Methods (7765/7509)
Level: Post Graduate

Semester Spring, 2014
Credit hours: 3(2+1)

CONTENT LIST

Following items are included in the study pack:

1. Course Book (Unit 1-9)
2. Theory Assignments One
3. Practical Assignment One
4. Assignment Forms 06
5. Schedule for Submitting the Assignment & Tutorial Meetings,

Note: If any item from the above-mentioned content is missing from your study pack kindly contact:

Mailing officer
Mailing section
Services & Operational Block
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Sector H-8, Islamabad

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WARNING

1. **PLAGIARISM OR HIRING OF GHOST WRITER(S) FOR SOLVING THE ASSIGNMENT(S) WILL DEBAR THE STUDENT FROM AWARD OF DEGREE/CERTIFICATE, IF FOUND AT ANY STAGE.**
2. **SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS BORROWED OR STOLEN FROM OTHER(S) AS ONE'S OWN WILL BE PENALIZED AS DEFINED IN "AIOU PLAGIARISM POLICY".**

Course: Research Methods (7765/7509)
Level: Post Graduate
Marks: 100

Semester: Spring, 2014
Credit hours: 3(2+1)
Pass marks: 50

ASSIGNMENT No 1

Note: All questions are compulsory. Distribution of marks is given against each.

- Q. 1 Enumerate the applications of research in preventive health. Elaborate on characteristics of a quality research. **(20)**
- Q. 2 What is meant by research process? Discuss the steps involved in this process with examples. **(10)**
- Q. 3 Review of related literature is key to the quality research. Discuss keeping in view the research process. **(10)**
- Q. 4 Differentiate between concept and variable. Discuss variables from the view point of Study Design. **(10)**
- Q. 5 Give classification of research design. Discuss research design according to the number of contacts in detail. **(10)**
- Q. 6 Discuss various methods of data collection through primary sources. Give examples where necessary. **(10)**
- Q. 7 Explain various types of sampling techniques. How will you calculate a representative sample from given population? **(10)**
- Q. 8 Write short notes on the following: **(5+5+5+5=20)**
- a) Importance of Hypothesis.
 - b) Functions of Research Design.
 - c) Ethics in Research

- d) The Role of Computers in Research

ASSIGNMENT No. 2

Total Marks: 100

Pass Marks: 50

This assignment is of practical nature. You will have to prepare a research proposal/synopsis in consultation with your tutor before commencement of workshop. This synopsis will be presented by each student in the workshop at the end of the semester. Marks obtained after presentation will be included in the final result of the course. Each student will have to prepare 02 copies of the synopsis in spiral binding for submission. (One for the tutor and one for the departmental record)

Instructions for the development of synopsis include following.

1. Selection of the topic:

Select your research topic from the field of Community Health and Nutrition and should be approved by you the tutor. Relevance of the topic to the discipline and Researchers interest in the research topic is key to quality research.

2. Format of research proposal/synopsis shall be as follows:

- a) introduction/theoretical framework/review of literature/Background/Rationale
- b) tatement of the problem
- c) Objectives
- d) Hypotheses where appropriate/Research Questions
- e) Significance
- f) Assumptions where applicable
- g) Delimitations
- h) Method of Research/Research Methodology
 - i) Population
 - ii) Sample and sampling technique
 - iii) Research Design
 - iv) Research instrument: Type, Development, Validation, Pilot testing
 - v) Data Collection
 - vi) Analysis and interpretation of data
- i) Definition of terms where applicable
- j) References

3. The research proposal/ Synopsis should not exceed 8-10 typed pages.

RESEARCH METHODS (7509)

COURSE OUTLINES

Level: Post Graduate

Credit Hours: 3(2+1)

Unit–1: RESEARCH: A WAY OF THINKING

- Introduction
- Definitions of Research
- Characteristics of Research
- Types of Research
- Applications of Research

Unit–2: FORMULATING A RESEARCH PROBLEM

- Reviewing the Literature
- Formulating a Research Problem
- Identifying Variables
- Constructing Hypotheses

Unit–3: CONCEPTUALIZING A RESEARCH DESIGN

- The Research Design
- Selecting a Study Design
- The Number of Contacts
- The Reference Period
- The Nature of the Investigation

Unit–4: CONSTRUCTING AN INSTRUMENT FOR DATA COLLECTION

- Selecting a Method of Data Collection
- Collecting Data Using Primary Sources
- Collecting Data Using Secondary Sources

Unit–5: SELECTING A SAMPLE

- The Concept of Sampling
- Principles of Sampling
- Factors Affecting the Inferences Drawn From a Sample
- Types of Sampling

Unit–6: WRITING A RESEARCH PROPOSAL

- The Preamble/Introduction
- The Problem

- The Objectives of the Study
- The Hypotheses to be Tested
- The Study Design
- Measurement Procedures
- Analysis of Data
- Structure of the Report
- Problems and Limitations
- Work Schedule

Unit-7: DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING

- Ethical Issues in Data Collection
- Tools of Data Collections
- Data Processing

Unit-8: DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION

- Data Analysis
- Data Presentation in the Form of Tables, Graphs and Figures

Unit-9: WRITING A RESEARCH REPORT

- Introduction to Research Writing
- Tools of Data Collection
- Developing an Outline
- Referencing
- Writing a Bibliography

Recommended Books:

1. *Ranjit Kumar, Research Methodology – A Step by Step Guide for Beginners. 2011. Published by Sage Publications*
2. *Michelle Lowe, Beginning Research a Guide for Foundation Degree Students – 2007. Published by Routledge New York*
3. *Judith Bell, Doing Your Research Project. A Guide for First Time Researchers in Education and Social Science 3rd Edition. 2004. Open University Press, U.K.*
4. *Tariq H. Malik, Meliorism of Research Methodology. 1998, Published by Melliorium Publications, Islamabad.*

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