

Ambedkar University Delhi

Course Outline

Winter Semester (January to May 2018)

School:	Undergraduate Studies			
Programme with title:	BA (Honours)			
Semester to which offered: (I/ III/ V)	IV Semester			
Course Title:	Methods in Psychology			
Credits:	4 Credits			
Course Code (new):	SUS1PS706			
Course Code (old):	P07			
Type of Course:	Compulsory	yes	Cohort	BA (H) Psychology
	Elective	yes	Cohort	BA (H) other than Psychology

For SUS only (Mark an X for as many as appropriate):

1. Foundation (Compulsory)
2. Foundation (Elective)
3. Discipline (Compulsory) X
4. Discipline (Elective)
5. Elective

Course Coordinator and Team: Prof. Rachana Johri

Email of course coordinator: rachana@aud.ac.in

Pre-requisites: Students should have done the course on Statistics

Aim:

A training in research methods is fundamental to the vision of a university dedicated to social sciences. We expect this course to provide literacy and skills in the preliminaries of research methods in Psychology, an asset regardless of whether students pursue further education or enter the job market. A special feature of the course is to study published research using varied methodology as well as to learn to design research.

Brief description of modules/ Main modules:

This is an innovative course that introduces students to the issues of research and the methods of data generation through some works in Psychology. Students will read work that has employed diverse methods including laboratory and field experiments, observation, case study, correlational studies and qualitative research. Issues of sample selection, the determination of variables and designs will be discussed through the studies we chose. The course will help to understand the multiple ways of doing psychology, to see the relationship between the questions asked and the methods followed and the impossibility of determining any one method to grasp the entire complexity of humans.

Modules -

1. **The nature of Psychological research:** Purpose of psychological research; epistemological issues in Psychological research
2. **Quantitative and Qualitative Research:** This unit makes the distinctions between the qualitative and quantitative frameworks of research in Psychology
3. **Designs in Quantitative Research:** The concept of research design; Experimental designs, Correlational Designs
4. **Collecting data in quantitative research:** experiments, surveys, observation and interviews . What are the popular tools through which data is collected in quantitative Psychology. The unit will provide students with a brief introduction to each.
5. **Collecting qualitative data:** Interviews and narratives, case study, content analysis. This unit explores the methods more frequently employed in qualitative a Psychology.
6. **Writing up the research:** Students will be helped to understand how to write reports. The emphasis here will be on styles of writing and the relationship of this to questions of epistemology.

References:

- Guba, E. G. and Lincoln, Y. S. (2005). *Paradigmatic controversies, Contradictions and Emerging Confluences*. In Denzin, N.K. & Lincoln, Y.S. (eds) *The SAGE handbook of qualitative research*.
- Hayes, N. (1997). *Doing Qualitative Analysis in Psychology*. Psychology Press.
- Dunn, D. S. (2012). *Research Methods for Social Psychology*. John Wiley & Sons.

Tentative Assessment schedule with details of weightage:

S.No	Assessment	Date/period in which Assessment will take place	Weightage
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1	Home assignment		30%
2	Mid Semester Exam		30%
3	End Semester Exam		40%