

School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada
Department of Planning,
Lecture Plan

Name of Course: **Dissertation – Formulation of Research Proposal (PLN412)**

Programme & Sem:	Bachelor of Planning - IV Year VII Sem.
Course Duration:	20 July 2026 – 11 November 2026
Course Coordinator:	Dr. Anurag Bagde, Assistant Professor, Department of Planning; Dr. Nitesh Shukla, Assistant Professor, Department of Planning
Number of Credits:	03
Subject Category:	JC (Jury core subject)
Total Periods/Week:	03
Internal Assessment	50
End Evaluation	50
Total Marks	100 (to be converted to CGPA credit pattern as per regulations)

Subject Objective: To initiate the terminal project exercise by enabling students to identify a topic and then develop a proposal and methodology in detail

Week	Lecture / Session Topic (Teaching-Learning Objective aimed)	Unit and Assignment
Week 1 (24 July)	- Basics of academic and applied research - Typologies of research methods: qualitative, quantitative, mixed method	
Week 2 (31 July)	Example of research topics and associated methods	Discussion on Planning Problems and related Innovations - Theme selection
Week 3 (07 Aug.)	- Developing two alternative research titles within interest areas - Substantiating each title with an abstract write-up	Assignment 1-A: Identification of Problem statement (Progression)
Week 4 (14 Aug.)	Detailed background information based on literature review	

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	Establishing the need for the project and its scope	Assignment 1-B: Review: Tentative Topic (Marking)
Week 5 (21 Aug)	Internal Assessment I: Presentation of tentative options of topics.	
Week 6-7 (22 Aug - 05 Sep)	Field Trip	
Week 8 (11 Sep)	Basic objectives and limitations of the research project	Assignment 2-A: Introduction to Literature Review (Task)
Week 9 (18 Sep)	- Methodology chart for the research project - Types of information required and survey methods	
Week 10 (21-25 Sep)	Mid- Semester Assessment week	Assignment 2-B: Review (Title, background, need for research, literature review, research gap, aim, objectives, broad methodology)
Week 12 (09 Oct.)	- Visual Presentation of the methodology - Planning for field work during the semester break	Assignment 3-A: Indicators, Parameters, Indices and other data attributes
Week 13 (16 Oct)	- Synopsis writing: structure and content - Abstract writing: purpose and format - Report writing: organization and presentation	Guest Lecture/ Assignment 3-B: Analysis tools and techniques
Week 14 (23 Oct)	- Citation and referencing styles - In-depth exploration of citation methods and tools - Practice in using citation management software - Ethical consideration in academic writing	
Week 15	Structuring the research report	

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(30 Oct)	• Data presentation and analysis • Incorporating visuals and tables	Assignment 3-C: Review: Overall Submission with Dissertation Report
Week 16 (06 Nov.)	• Peer review and feedback sessions on research report • Final revisions and preparations for submission • Discussion on academic and professional presentation of research findings	

Reference books:

1. Creswell J W & Creswell J D, (2023). Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches, Sage Publication.
2. Wang X & Vom Hofe. R, (2007). Research methods in urban and regional planning.
3. Silva E. A. and others (Eds.) (2014). The Routledge Handbook of Planning Research Methods.
4. Kothari C. R. & Garg G. (2019). Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques.
5. Murray R (2025). How to Write a Thesis, 5th Edition, Open University Press.

Note:

1. Any other closed holidays as declared by SPAV shall supersede the above lecture plan. Holidays shown above may alter as per Notice from time to time.
2. Assessment Sessions may be re-scheduled, with prior intimation.
3. Reading lists provided is not exhaustive and is subject to addition – students are advised to follow progression of class to keep abreast of the new reading lists, if any.
4. Expert guest lecture is subjected to the availability of expert.