

योजना तथा वास्तुकला विद्यालय, विजयवाड़ा
School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada
An Institute of National Importance, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India

Department of Planning
Lecture Plan, Odd Semester, A.Y. 2026-27

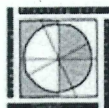
Name of Course: Research Methods (MPIS212)

Programme & Sem: Master of Planning, Semester Three
Course Duration: July 2026 to November 2026
Course Coordinators: Asst. Prof. Rajeev R. & Asst. Prof. Ekta

Number of Credits: 03
Subject Category: Lab/ JC
Total Periods/Week: 03
Internal Assessment: 50 (minimum pass marks 50%)
End Evaluation: 50 (minimum pass marks 50%)
Total Marks: 100 (to be converted to CGPA credit pattern as per regulations)

Subject Objective: To initiate the planning thesis by enabling students to identify a topic and then develop a proposal and methodology in detail besides providing them with the required theoretical inputs on the syllabus contents.

Week	Lecture / Session Topic (Teaching-Learning Objective aimed)	Session Mode/ Unit/ Assignment
Week 1 (20 July)	Introduction to 'Research': What is Research? Types of Research; Basics of Academic and Applied Research; Need for Inquiry in Research.	Interactive Session, Lecture, Discussion (Unit I)
Week 2 (27 July)	Research Approaches and Philosophies; Introduction to Elements of Research; Paradigms in Research; Research Ethics.	T1: Classroom Exercise: Identifying Literature One-to-one Discussion with students on Research Domain/ Topic
Week 3 (03 Aug)	Defining a Research Problem; Understanding Research Design – Structuring Research Thinking; Research Components.	Interactive Session, Lecture/ Tutorial, Discussion (Unit II)
Week 4 (7 Aug)	Finalizing Research Problem Identification; Literature Review – Why and How.	T2: Develop a Title and an Abstract (Submission in Week 3)
Week 5 (10 Aug)	Systematic Literature Review – use of PRISMA Workflow; Bibliometric Analysis (Biblioshiny); VOSviewer Introduction to Reference Management Tools	T3: Submission of Research Paper Review – 3 papers (Submission in Week 4) Special Lecture/ Tutorials for SLR and Reference Management Tools
Week 6 (17 Aug)	Developing Hypothesis and Research Questions	Interactive Session, Lecture/ Tutorial, Discussion (Unit II) T4: Submission of Literature Review Matrix – 8-10 papers and Research Gap Identification
Week 7-8 (24 Aug)	Studio Field Visit - (22 Aug - 05 Sep)	

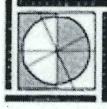


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Week 9 (07 Sep)	Discussion on SLR Output submitted;	Structuring of the idea – Motivation, Research Problem, Literature Review; Research Gap, Hypothesis/ Research Questions, Aim and Objectives.
Week 10 (14 Sep)	Research Design – Aim, Objectives, Method Flow	Interactive Session, Lecture/ Tutorial, Discussion (Unit II)
Week 11 (21 Sep)	Mid-semester Assessment Week : Synopsis (Need for the Research and Research Design) and/or written test	
Week 12 (28 Sep)	Research Communication – Presentation, Effective Oral Communication; Content Structuring, Voice Modulation, Body Language, AV aids, hand-outs, gestures, Interactive Communication	Classroom Exercise, Discussion, Tutorial (Unit V)
Week 13 (05 Oct)	Methods of Data Collection and Sampling Design	Self Study for Developing Thesis Proposal T5: Review of Aim, Objectives and Method Flow Lecture, Tutorial (Unit II)
Week 14 (12 Oct)	Analytical Tools/ Techniques – Quantitative Methods	Lecture, Tutorial (Unit II)
Week 15 (19 Oct)	<i>Dussera – Self Study for detailing thesis proposal and the Literature Background</i>	
Week 16 (26 Oct)	Analytical Tools/ Techniques – Qualitative and Spatial	Special Lecture (Unit II)
Week 17 (02 Nov)	Identifying and Justifying Case Area; Field Visit Plan	Finalization Method Flow Interactive Session; One-to-One Discussion (Unit IV)
Week 18 (09 Nov)	Technical Writing	Submission of RM Sheets by Week 17 Classroom Exercise, Discussion, Tutorial (Unit V)
	Research Proposal Submission	Submission of Synopsis by Week 18 Interactive Session

Suggested Readings/ References from Library:

1. Kothari, C.R., 'Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques'. New Age International (P) Limited Publishers. 2004. (Chap 1) (BOOK)
2. Israel, M., Hay, I., 'Research Ethics for Social Scientists'. Pine Forge Press, SAGE Publications. 2006. (Chap 1) (BOOK)
3. Silva, Healey, (eds)., 'The Routledge Handbook of Planning Research Methods'. 2015 (Chap 1,5,6) (BOOK)
4. Neville, C., 'An Introduction to Research and Research Methods. Effective Learning Services'. School of Management, University of Bradford. 2007. (BOOKLET)
5. Gujrati D N., Basic Econometrics. 2020. Tata McGraw Hill Series. Appendix A, C and D.
6. Research and Education Association, 'REA's Quick & Easy Guide to Writing Your A+ Term Paper'. Research and Education Association. 2001. (Chap 4) (BOOK)



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7. Becker, L., 'Presenting Your Research Conferences, Symposiums, Poster Presentations and Beyond'. Sage Publications. 2014. (ARTICLE)

Note:

8. 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.
9. Assessment Sessions may be re-scheduled, with prior intimation.
10. 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.