



Department of Planning,
Lecture Plan, Odd Semester, AY 2025-26

Name of Course: M. Planning (MURP)

Subject Name:	Research Methods (MPIS212)
Year & Sem:	II Year III Semester
Course Duration:	20 July 2026 to 11 November 2026
Course Coordinator:	Dr. Jayeshkumar Maheshkumar Bhagwat; Ms. Monica S
Number of Credits:	3
Subject Category:	JC (Jury Core)
Total Periods/Week:	3
Internal Assessment	50
End Evaluation	50
Total Marks	100
Total No. of Internal Assessment & Mode	3 Internal Reviews, 1 Mid-Semester Assessment, 1 Post-Mid-Semester Report Submission (Student Presentations, Reports, Term Paper)

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	Reference/ Suggested Readings
Week 1 (starting 20 July)	Introduction to the Course Unit I: Introducing Research What is research? Types of research, basics of academic and applied research; Different approaches to research; Research philosophies – positivist and phenomenological philosophies. Introduction to elements of research: grounded theory, epistemology, ontology, theoretical perspective, methods, methodology; Justification of choice and use of methods and methodology; Paradigms in research; Research Ethics	Tutorial, Lecture	1. Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). <i>Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches</i> (5th ed.). SAGE Publications. 2. Crotty M. (2012), <i>Introduction: The Research Process, the Foundations of Social Research, Meaning and Perspective in the Research Process</i>. Sage Publications, New Delhi. 3. Bhandarkar, P. L., & Wilkinson, T. S. (2000). <i>Methodology and techniques of social research (25th ed.)</i>. Himalaya Publishing House.



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Week 2 (starting 27 July)	Discussion of possible research directions and development of research topics	Tutorial	
Week 3 (starting 03 Aug)	Methodology: Identification of research problem; Research questions; Formulation of hypothesis; Writing aims, objectives, scope and limitations; Content development – Developing contextual background; Research design;	Lecture	- do -
Week 4 (starting 10 Aug)	Internal Review I	Student Presentations	
Week 5 (starting 17 Aug)	Unit II: Developing Thesis Review of relevant literature; Quantitative – surveys, experimental, longitudinal, cross-sectional studies; Qualitative – case studies, action research, ethnography, participative enquiry, grounded theory. Identification of suitable research methods/ techniques/ instruments; Data collection – questionnaires, sampling techniques, observation, interviews;	Lecture	1. Singleton, R. A., Jr., & Straits, B. C. (2018). <i>Approaches to social research</i> (6th ed.). Oxford University Press. Oxford University Press. 2. Kothari, C. R., & Garg, G. (2019). <i>Research methodology: Methods and techniques</i> (4th ed.). New Age International Publishers.
Week 6-7 (22 Aug-05 Sep)	Field Trip		
Week 8 (starting 07 Sep)	Brief discussion of work on review of literature towards identified topic; Analysis – qualitative and quantitative analysis, data synthesis; Research outcome	Tutorial, Lecture	1. Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). <i>Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches</i> (5th ed.). SAGE Publications. 2. Singleton, R. A., Jr., &



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	– research findings, recommendation and conclusion.		Straits, B. C. (2018). <i>Approaches to social research</i> (6th ed.). Oxford University Press. Oxford University Press.
Week 9 (starting 14 Sep)	Presentation and discussion of identified topic (tentative aim, objectives, hypothesis and research questions) and relevant literature study	Tutorial	
Week 10 (21 Sep-25 Sep)	Mid- Semester Assessment week	Student Presentations and Report	
Week 11 (starting 28 Sep)	Unit III: Data Analytics in Research Data analytics; multi-variate data analysis; Submission of Literature Study, Outline of Methodology: Report (revised)	Lecture, Report Submission	1. Wang, Xinhao & Hofe, Rainer (2007). <i>Research Methods in Urban and Regional Planning</i> . Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg. Tsinghua University Press. 2. Hair, J. F., Black, W. C., Babin, B. J., & Anderson, R. E. (2019). <i>Multivariate data analysis</i> (8th ed.). Cengage Learning.
Week 12 (starting 05 Oct)	Simulation and modelling techniques in urban planning – statistical, geo-spatial, mathematical, econometric, System Dynamics, network-based, agent-based modelling, etc., by employing various software and analytical tools and hypothesis testing.	Lecture, Guest Lecture*	
Week 13 (starting 12 Oct)			
Week 14 (starting 19 Oct)	Unit IV: Field Work Plan Survey format preparation, study area identification and map preparation; Work plan schedule. Brief discussion of work on methodology and research design towards identified topic	Lecture, Tutorial	1. Binns, T. (2006). <i>Doing Fieldwork in Developing Countries: Planning and Logistics</i> . In Desai, V., & Potter, R. B. Doing Development Research (pp. 1324). London: SAGE Publications, Ltd DOI:10.4135/9781849208925
Week 15 (starting)	Internal Review II	Student presentations	



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Week	Lecture / Session Topic (Teaching-Learning Objective aimed)	Session Mode	Reference/ Suggested Readings
26 Oct)			
Week 16 (starting 02 Nov)	Unit V: Research Communication Research vocabulary, reading – notes taking, material organization, indexing; Technical writing – content synthesizing, paraphrasing, citation and referencing; Academic writing – research proposal/ synopsis, abstract writing, report writing and mapping; Presentation: effective oral communication – content structuring, voice modulation, body language, audio-visual aids, handouts.	Lecture	1. Bailey. S. 2015. <i>Academic Writing: A Handbook for International Students</i> . London and New York: Routledge. 2. John M Swales (2009). <i>Abstracts and Writing Abstracts</i> . University of Michigan Press.
Week 17 (starting 09 Nov)	Internal Review III	Student presentations, Sheets, Term Paper	
11 Nov: End of Class Work			

Details of Internal Assessments

Tentative Date/Week of the Assessment	Mode of Assessment	Marks of the Assessment
Week 4 – Internal Review I	Review of Research Topic(s) and Abstract(s): Student presentations	7.5
Week 10 – Mid-Semester Assessment Week	Review of Literature Study and Basic Outline of Methodology: Student presentations, Report (draft)	17.5
Week 11 – Post-Mid-Semester Report Submission	Submission of Literature Study, Outline of Methodology: Report (revised)	2.5
Week 15 – Internal Review II	Review of Methodology and Research Design: Student presentations	10
Week 17 – Internal Review	Review of Research Proposal: Student presentations, Sheets, Term Paper	12.5



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Reference books:

1. Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches* (5th ed.). SAGE Publications.
2. Crotty M. (2012), *Introduction: The Research Process, the Foundations of Social Research, Meaning and Perspective in the Research Process*. Sage Publications, New Delhi.
3. Singleton, R. A., Jr., & Straits, B. C. (2018). *Approaches to social research* (6th ed.). Oxford University Press. Oxford University Press.
4. Wang, Xinhao & Hofe, Rainer (2007). *Research Methods in Urban and Regional Planning*. Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg. Tsinghua University Press.
5. Hair, J. F., Black, W. C., Babin, B. J., & Anderson, R. E. (2019). *Multivariate data analysis* (8th ed.). Cengage Learning.
6. Binns, T. (2006). *Doing Fieldwork in Developing Countries: Planning and Logistics*. In Desai, V., & Potter, R. B. *Doing Development Research* (pp. 1324). London: SAGE Publications, Ltd DOI:10.4135/9781849208925
7. Bailey. S. 2015. *Academic Writing: A Handbook for International Students*. London and New York: Routledge.
8. John M Swales (2009). *Abstracts and Writing Abstracts*. University of Michigan Press.
9. Kothari, C. R., & Garg, G. (2019). *Research methodology: Methods and techniques* (4th ed.). New Age International Publishers.
10. Bhandarkar, P. L., & Wilkinson, T. S. (2000). *Methodology and techniques of social research* (25th ed.). Himalaya Publishing House.

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.

Signature of the Faculty