

Name of the Programme: Ph.D. (History)

Course Code: HIS-700

Title of the Course: Research Methodology

Number of Credits: 04

Effective from AY: 2022-23

Prerequisites for the course:	Nil	
Course Objectives:	<p>Research Methodology is designed to introduce students to the basics of doing research in the discipline of history and familiarise them with the tools and techniques used by historians to study the past.</p> <p>The course aims at informing the learners about the concepts and characteristics of historical research, acquaint them with the nature and typologies of historical sources, the use of primary and secondary sources, and familiarise them with the process of collection of data, historical criticism, synthesis and interpretation, and also the writing of history, including the use of different style guides.</p> <p>The overall objective of this course is to provide the student with the requisite information, skills, and tools needed to do research in the discipline of history.</p>	
Content:	I. Historical Research: Concepts and Characteristics Research: What it entails. The Idea and Value of History. History: Art or Science? Varieties of history. History as Interdisciplinary Practice. Space, Time and History. Historical Context and Moral Judgements. Certainty in history. The objectivity problématique in historical studies. Perspective and bias in the writing of history. History as Re-enactment. Historical imagination.	15 Hours
	II. Research Preliminaries, Source Typologies Basic research skills in 'doing' history. Choosing a topic, conceptualising a research problem and preparing a research plan. Formulating a working hypothesis. Hypothesis, argumentation, problématique. Doing history: principal operations. Historical data: texts, images, objects and statistical information. Structured and unstructured historical datasets. Primary and Secondary Sources. Sources as authority and sources in context: written, oral, visual, aural; archaeological, cartographical, numismatic, epigraphical, iconographical, monumental, ethnographical, statistical; literature as history. Digital sources. E-historical resources. Online databases. Archives and the digital turn. History computing. Historical Information Science.	15 Hours
	III. Historical Analysis, Synthesis and Interpretation Historical Criticism: External and Internal. Secondary Sources: Thesis, Argument, Evidence. Primary Sources: Authenticity, Intent, Credibility. Note-making. Historical facts and their synthesis. Corroboration of sources. Data analysis in historical research: qualitative, quantitative and	15 Hours

	<p>mixed methods approaches. Textual analysis. Causation, contingency, convergence and individual agency. Interpretation and meanings of the past. Dealing with conflicting historical interpretations.</p> <p>IV. The Historian at Work Ethics in Doing and Writing Historical Research. Doing History: in the archives, at the museum, with ethnohistorical sources and statistical data. Interviewing techniques and best practices. Historical “memory” versus historical evidence. Writing History: Genres of historical writing. Popular historical genres and scholarly historical narratives. Structuring an Argument. Narrative and History. Form and Style: Chicago Manual of Style, MLA Handbook, APA Style. Rewriting history.</p>	15 Hours
Pedagogy:	Lecture method/project-based learning/collaborative learning/ /hands-on learning through visits to archives, museums, historical sites and monuments/experiential learning through participant-observation field work/student reflexivity	
References/ Readings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Abbott, Mary, ed. <i>History Skills: A Student's Handbook</i>. 2nd ed. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2009. 2. Arnold, John H. <i>History: A Very Short Introduction</i>. New York: Oxford University Press, 2000. 3. Brien, James. “The Role of Causation in History.” <i>History in the Making</i> 2, no.1 (2013): 72-81. 4. Carr, David. <i>Experience and History: Phenomenological Perspectives on the Historical World</i>. New York: Oxford University Press, 2014. 5. Carr, E. H. <i>What is History?</i> With a new introduction by Richard J. Evans. 40th anniversary edition. Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2001. 6. Chakrabarti, Kunal. <i>Religious Process: The Puranas and the Making of a Regional Tradition</i>. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2001. 7. Claus, Peter, and John Marriott. <i>History: An Introduction to Theory, Method and Practice</i>. 2nd ed. Abingdon: Routledge, 2017. 8. Collingwood. R. G. <i>The Idea of History</i>. Rev. ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994. 9. Donnelly, Mark, and Claire Norton. <i>Doing History</i>. Abingdon: Routledge, 2011. 10. Elton, G. R. <i>The Practice of History</i>. Oxford: Blackwell, 2002. 11. Evans, Richard J. <i>In Defence of History</i>. London: Granta Books, 1997. 12. Flick, Uwe. <i>The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Data Analysis</i>. London: SAGE Publications Ltd, 2014. 13. Garraghan, Gilbert J. <i>A Guide to Historical Method</i>. New York: Fordham University Press, 1946. 14. Gottschalk, Louis. <i>Understanding History: A Primer of Historical Method</i>. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1950. 15. Grafton, Anthony. <i>The Footnote: A Curious History</i>. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1997. 16. Heehs, Peter. “Myth, History and Theory.” <i>History and Theory</i> 33, no. 1 (1994): 19. 17. Howell, Martha, and Walter Prevenier. <i>From Reliable Sources: An Introduction to Historical Methods</i>. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2001. 18. Jenkins, Keith. <i>At the Limits of History: Essays on Theory and Practice</i>. 	

	<p>Abingdon: Routledge, 2009.</p> <p>19. Little, Vivienne. "What Is Historical Imagination?" <i>Teaching History</i> 1, no. 36 (1983): 27–32.</p> <p>20. Loughran, Tracey, ed. <i>A Practical Guide to Studying History- Skills and Approaches</i>. London: Bloomsbury, 2017.</p> <p>21. Marwick, Arthur. <i>The New Nature of History Knowledge, Evidence, Language</i>. Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2001.</p> <p>22. McDowell, W. H. <i>Historical Research: A Guide</i>. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2002.</p> <p>23. Munslow, Alun, ed. <i>The Routledge Companion to Historical Studies</i>. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2006.</p> <p>24. Perks, Robert, and Alistair Thompson, eds. <i>The Oral History Reader</i>. London: Routledge, 2006.</p> <p>25. Rüsen, Jörn, ed. <i>Meaning and Representation in History</i>. New York, Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2006.</p> <p>26. Shafer, R. J. <i>A Guide to Historical Method</i>. Illinois: The Dorsey Press, 1974.</p> <p>27. Southgate, Beverley. <i>History: What and Why? Ancient, Modern and Postmodern Perspectives</i>. 2nd ed. London: Routledge, 2001.</p> <p>28. Staley, David. <i>Historical Imagination</i>. Abingdon, Oxon, and New York: Routledge, 2021.</p> <p>29. Tosh, John. <i>The Pursuit of History: Aims, Methods and New Directions in the Study of History</i>. 6th ed. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, 2015.</p> <p>30. Tosh, John. <i>Why History Matters</i>. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008.</p> <p>31. Vansina, Jan. <i>Oral Tradition as History</i>. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1985.</p>
Course Outcomes	<p>Upon the successful completion of this course, the student would be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. assess the importance of studying the past and presenting conclusions informed by historical research; 2. distinguish between and appraise primary and secondary historical sources; 3. articulate the process of developing research questions, conducting historical research, and presenting findings in an original manner; 4. identify the challenges of conducting historical research and the differences between quantitative and qualitative methodologies; 5. conduct historical research in a library, museum, archive; 6. conduct historical research using non-textual and cultural sources; 7. use online historical resources to pursue historical inquiries; and 8. write a research paper in the discipline of history.