SES's L.S. RAHEJA COLLEGE OF ARTS and COMMERCE (AUTONOMOUS)

BOARD OF STUDIES: Psychology
PROGRAMME: MA Psychology (with Counselling Specialization)
SEMESTER: I
NOMENCLATURE OF THE COURSE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY FOR BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE
NEP Vertical: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
Credit: 4

(As Per Choice Based Credit System (under NEP 2020) with effect from the academic year 2025-26)

Programme:	**MA Psychology (with Counselling Specialization)**
Nomenclature of the Course	**Research Methodology For Behavioural Science**
Course Code	**PGMACOIRM26**
Total Marks	**100**
Semester:	**I**
Academic year	**2026-27**

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: This paper aims to develop a strong foundation in research methodology, including ethical considerations, research design, and data collection techniques in psychology. It also aims to enhance students' ability to critically analyse, design, and report research in a scientifically rigorous manner.

COURSE OUTCOMES:

1. Analyse fundamental concepts of research, including variables, hypotheses, and ethical standards, to critically evaluate psychological studies. Formulate research problems and design proposals adhering to ethical and scientific principles.
2. Analyse and apply different research settings and data collection methods to design appropriate research strategies. Critically evaluate the suitability of primary and secondary data sources in various research contexts.
3. Analyse principles of research validity and sampling techniques to ensure accuracy and generalizability of findings. Evaluate potential sources of bias and error in research design and sampling procedures.
4. Analyse and evaluate various quantitative research designs, including experimental, quasi-experimental, and survey methods. Design appropriate research frameworks to address specific psychological research questions.

Unit	Course Content	Andragogy	No of Lectures
Module I	**1. Introduction to research** 1.1 Research – Meaning, aims, objectives, characteristics 1.2 Basic Concepts: Types of variables, problems and hypothesis 1.3 Ethical standards of psychological research, planning, conduction and reporting research 1.4 Proposing and reporting research	Interactive lectures, PowerPoint presentations, Case studies, Research-based assignments Experiential learning activities	**15**
Module II	**2. Research Settings & Data Collection Methods** 2.1 Experimental research settings 2.2 Non-experimental quantitative research 2.3 Collecting data using primary sources 2.4 Collecting data using secondary sources	Interactive lectures, PowerPoint presentations, Case studies, Research-based assignments Experiential	**15**

		learning activities	
Module III	**3. Research Validity and Sampling** 3.1 How to ensure research validity 3.2 Elements and basic principles of sampling 3.3 Nature and types of probability sampling and non- probability sampling 3.4 Sources of errors/biases in sampling	Interactive lectures, PowerPoint presentations, Case studies, Research-based assignments Experiential learning activities	**15**
Module IV	**4. Quantitative Research Design** 4.1 Experimental design 4.2 Quasi-experimental research design 4.3 Survey Research Design	Interactive lectures, PowerPoint presentations, Case studies, Research-based assignments Experiential learning activities	**15**

SUGGESTED READINGS

1. American Psychological Association. Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Latest Edition. APA.
2. Christensen, L. B., Johnson, B., Turner, L. A. (2021). Research methods, design, and analysis (13th ed) Pearson publication
3. Elmes, D. G. (2011). Research Methods in Psychology. Wadsworth Publishing; 9 ed. Forrester, M. A. (2010). Doing Qualitative Research in Psychology: A Practical Guide. Sage. Goodwin, J. (2009). Research in Psychology: Methods in Design. Wiley (6th edition).
4. Kumar, R (2011). Research Methodology- a step by step guide for beginners (3rd ed) Sage publications McBurney, D. H., White, T.L (2013). Research methods. (8th Ed.). Wadsworth Publishing.
5. Neumen, L. W. (1997). Social research methods - Qualitative and quantative approaches. 3rd edition. Allyn and Bacon.
6. Shaughnessy, J. J., Zechmeister, E. B. & Zechmeister, J. (2012). Research methods in psychology. (Ninth Edi.). NY: McGraw Hill.
7. Singh, A.K. (2006). 5th ed. Tests, Measurement and Research Methods in Behavioural Sciences. Patna: Bharati Bhavan.
8. Tabachnick, B.G. and Fidell, L. J. (2012). Using Multivariable statistics (6th ed).

QUESTION PAPER PATTERN

(A) FOR CONTINUOUS EVALUATION

20 Marks Class Test	(MCQ/QUIZ) ---------- 20 MARKS

(A-1)

(A-1) RUBRICS FOR CONTINUOUS EVALUATION

20 Marks	ASSIGNMENT ---------- 10 MARKS
	VIVA-VOCE ---------- 10 MARKS

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(B) QUESTION PAPER PATTERN FOR SEMESTER END EXAMINATION

60 Marks	Q1. Answer in brief (1/2)-------- 15 marks
	Q2. Answer in brief (1/2)-------- 15 marks
	Q3. Answer in brief (1/2)-------- 15 marks
	Q4. Answer in brief (1/2)-------- 15 marks