

University of Calicut

PhD Course Work (Social Work) PAPER I

**Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods for Social Work**

**Learning Objectives:**

1. To understand the significance and characteristics of scientific research
2. To develop competence in conducting qualitative and quantitative research
3. To develop an understanding about the research process of qualitative and quantitative research
4. To gain an understanding about the application of statistical techniques in social work research

**Module I Introduction**

Scientific Research and social work: - Meaning of research, types of research, Social work research – aims and significance. Types of Research- Qualitative v/s Quantitative Research. evaluative research, participatory research, action research.

**Module II Quantitative Research methods in social work**

Research Problem formulation: - Concepts, Theoretical and operational definition of concepts. Role of theory in research, Variables- Types. Hypothesis- Definition, types, sources and significance . Importance and methods of review of literature. Formulation of research proposal. Pilot study. Ethical considerations in research.

Research Design: - Meaning, purposes and types: - Exploratory, Descriptive, Diagnostic and experimental. Quasi-experimental design. Single subject designs, group design, Sampling procedures- Types, merits and demerits

Measurement- Levels, scales and scaling techniques, Pre test, validity and reliability

Data collection: - Primary data and Secondary data-Types. Methods of data collection - interview schedule, questionnaires, projective techniques.

Data analysis and Scientific Writing:

Data coding, data entry, methods of presenting research data in qualitative and quantitative software (tabular and diagrammatic)

Steps in writing research proposals and reports

Writing scientific publications, types of scientific publication: original research article, Concept Paper, systematic review, case reports.

Styles of referencing and reference management using software (Medley/ Endnote/ Zetero)

Data analysis and data presentation in quantitative studies: Editing, Coding, tabulating, Interpreting, Descriptive and inferential Analysis

Report writing- Format, style and content. Qualities of a good research report

### **Module III Qualitative Research methods in social work**

Meaning, functions of qualitative research, strengths and weakness of qualitative research  
Qualitative approaches to inquiry (Ethnography, Narrative, Thematic, Phenomenology, Field Research, Grounded Theory, and Case study research), emic and etic perspectives, Content Analysis, Conversational analysis Principles of Triangulation.

Mixed method(Quantitative and Qualitative).

### **Module IV Statistical Methods**

Nature and purpose of statistics – use of statistical methods and limitations of statistics in social work research. Tabulation of data – purpose and basis of classification Frequency distribution- construction of frequency tables, graphic and diagrammatic presentation of data- Bar chart, Pie chart, Histogram, Frequency curve and Ogive, Normal distribution.

### **Module V Theoretical understanding of Descriptive and Inferential statistics**

Meaning, relevance, uses, merits and demerits of measures of central tendency, Measures of dispersion (Range, Quartile deviation, Mean deviation, Standard Deviation)

Meaning, relevance, uses, merits and demerits of measures of Correlation (Karl Pearson's Coefficient of correlation and Spearman's Rank correlation)

Meaning, relevance, uses, merits and demerits of Chi square, 't' test, and ANOVA

Use of software packages in data analysis – SPSS, R and ATLAS.ti- Process, interpretation and presentation of the findings.

### **References:**

1. Rubin A and Babbie E (2011). *Methodology for social work research*. 2nd Edition, Cengage Learning India Private Limited
2. C. B. Gupta, V. G. (2009). *Introduction to Statistical Methods*. New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House Pvt Ltd.
3. Cresswell, J. W. (2007). *Qualitative enquiry & research design: Choosing among five approaches*. New Delhi: Sage Publication.
4. Cresswell, J. W. (2009). *Research-Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and mixed methods approaches*. New Delhi: Sage Publications.

5. Creswell, J. W. and Clark, V.L. (2011). *Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Research*. New Delhi: Sage Publications.
6. D.K, L. (2000). *Practice of Social Research: Social Work Perspective*. New delhi: Rawat Publications.
7. Mark, R. (1996). *Research Made Simple: A Handbook for Social Workers*. New Delhi: Sage Publications Inc.
8. Rosenthal, J. A. (2012). *Statistics and Data Interpretation for social work*. New York: Springer publishing company.
9. Schneider, R. A. (2003). *Basic statistics for social workers*. Maryland: University press of America.

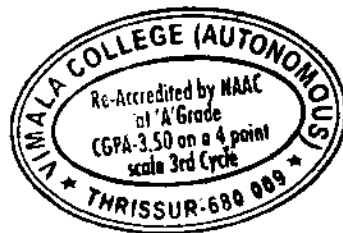


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THRISSUR-680 009**



**PhD Course Work**

**Quantitative and Qualitative Methods for Social Work Research**

**Time: 3 Hrs**

**Maximum Weightage: 36**

**Part A**

1. **Write short notes on five questions** (Marks :70)

1. Mean
2. Variables
3. Hypothesis
4. Sampling
5. Probability
6. Ratio level

(5x4=20)

**Part B**

**Answer any five questions each in about 800 words:**

7. Explain various research designs
8. Discuss the importance of quantitative techniques in social work research
9. Explain various qualitative research strategies
10. Discuss the importance of qualitative research for social work
11. What are the various data collection methods in social research
12. Explain the uses of SPSS
13. Explain various research designs

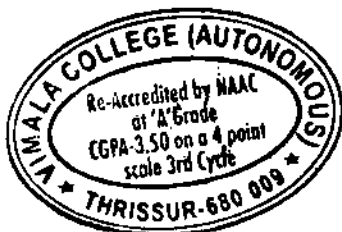
(5x6=30)

**Part C**

**Answer any two:**

14. What are the steps in scientific social work research process
15. Explain the strategies to analyse data in quantitative research
16. Distinguish between inferential and descriptive analysis. What are the techniques in both analysis
17. Explain the uses of computer in conducting research

(2x10=20)



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*Research Guide*