



ST. THOMAS COLLEGE OF TEACHER EDUCATION, PALA

KOTTAYAM (DT.)-686575, KERALA, INDIA

Re-accredited at A+ Grade by NAAC

Affiliated to Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala, India

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Ph.D. Programme & Course Work Syllabus

RESEARCH CENTRE IN EDUCATION

(Affiliated to the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam)
Ph.D. (Education) Course Work Programme





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VISION

To become a pioneering force in educational research, fostering transformative learning through innovation, empirical rigor, and inclusive collaboration. The centre envisions a future where educational theory and practice co-evolve—empowering educators, enriching student experiences, and shaping equitable, evidence-based policies that respond to the dynamic needs of society”

MISSION

1. To conduct and disseminate cutting-edge educational research that bridges theory with classroom practice, fostering innovation and relevance in teaching and learning.
2. To cultivate a culture of empirical inquiry by supporting methodologically rigorous studies that inform curriculum development, pedagogy, and policy reform.
3. To empower educators and learners by co-creating research-driven tools, strategies, and frameworks that enhance learning equity, engagement, and achievement.
4. To foster inclusive, interdisciplinary collaborations among scholars, practitioners, and communities that stimulate reflective dialogue and shared ownership of educational advancement.
5. To influence policy and practice through evidence-based recommendations, professional development, and public engagement that address current and emerging educational challenges.

RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The activities of the research centre are monitored by the Research Advisory Committee comprising the senior members of the faculty including the research supervisors, the college librarian and an external expert.

RESEARCH FORUM

The Research Centre has a Research Forum which serves as a dynamic platform for fostering academic inquiry and collaborative growth. The Forum through its carefully curated programs brings together research guides, faculty members and research scholars to:

- engage in meaningful dialogue
- address individual research challenges
- strengthen scholarly pursuits

The various programmes conducted by the forum include :

- **Research workshops** – Experts in the field of research lead discussions and workshops on various topics in research in Education every month
- **Colloquiums** – Discussions on titles, variables, tools of data collection, statistics employed, etc. of ongoing researchwork of Ph.D. aspirants are conducted at regular intervals
- **Progress review meetings** – Progress review meetings are conducted every six months. Research scholars participate in progress review meetings and modify their work according to the suggestions made by experts.
- **Pre-Ph.D. VIVA VOCE** – The college offers a venue for the Pre-Ph.D. VIVA VOCE of the research scholars
- **Research Publication** – Committed to promoting research dissemination, the Forum offers robust guidance and resources for publication efforts. It empowers researchers to share their work through recognized academic channels, contributing to the global exchange of knowledge and innovation.
- **Preparation for Course work exam** - Unit tests and model exams based on the courses are conducted to prepare the scholars for the exam.

Ph.D. REGULATIONS

The standards and procedures for registration, research and award of the Ph.D. degree of the University shall be as per the Ph.D. regulations framed by the UGC and Mahatma Gandhi University from time to time

Regulations - MGU Research : MGU Research

SYLLABUS FOR Ph.D. COURSE WORK

- (FULL TIME/ PART-TIME)

The research centre is affiliated to the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam. All candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be required to complete the coursework prescribed as per the University Ph.D. regulations modified from time to time.

1. Title:

The title of the course is *Ph.D. course work for Full Time/Part Time Ph.D. Scholars in Education.*

2. Objectives

At the end of or during the course, the student will be able to:

- Explore educational research methods in detail.
- Identify different types of educational research.
- Explain the different statistical techniques for educational research.
- Apply statistical packages for data analysis.
- Review in detail related literature and studies.
- Reflect on the contemporary trends and discourses in Educational Research.
- Appraise different dimensions of research ethics and academic writing.
- Apply Philosophical thoughts in Educational Research.
- Build a Sociological perspective in Educational Research.
- Integrate modern approaches in instructional practices in Educational Research.
- Critically examine curricula and assessment practices in Educational Research.
- Contribute to knowledge domain.

3. Duration

The duration of the program shall be one semester or six months, as prescribed in the Ph.D. ordinance of the affiliating Mahatma Gandhi university/regulations for the Full Time and Part Time Ph.D. The coursework will consist of 14 credits

4. Medium of Instruction:

The medium of instruction shall be English.

5. Instruction

Instruction will be face-to-face/online/hybrid mode for the Full Time/Part Time Scholars.

6. Course Outline:

A minimum of four credits shall be assigned to one or more courses on Research Methodology which could cover areas such as quantitative methods, computer applications, research ethics and review of published research in the relevant field, training, fieldwork, etc. All candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be required to complete the coursework prescribed as per the University Ph.D. regulations modified from time to time. The coursework of the Ph.D. (Education) Programme comprises four courses.

7. Course Details:

The course details are as follows:

Sl.No.	Course Code	Title of the course	Type of Course- Core/ DSE/ SEC/ AECC/ others	Credits
1	SPSDCIC1301	Research Methodology: Praxis and Paradigms	Core	4
2	SPSDCIC1302	Innovative Reflections in Pedagogy	Core	4
3	SPSDCIC1303	Constructs and Practices in the area of Research	Elective	4
4	SPSDCIC1304	Research and Publication Ethics	Core	2
	Four courses			14 credits

8. Assessment:

The assessment is continuous and comprehensive including internal and course end assessments. An absolute grading system is followed by the affiliating Mahatma Gandhi University. Under this system, the marks are converted to letter grades based on pre-determined mark intervals. The performances of students in each course are expressed in terms of marks as well as in Letter Grades

Sl.No.	Range of Marks in%	Grade
1	95 to 100	Outstanding
2	85 to 94	A Plus
3	75 to 84	A Only
4	65 to 74	B Plus
5	55 to 64	B Only
6	Below 55	Failed
7	Absent	AB

Course work Guidelines

mgu.ac.in/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/MGU-Ph.D.-Course-Work-Guidelines-2016.pdf

COURSE WORK SYLLABUS

COURSE I



SPSDCIC1301:

Research Methodology: Praxis and Paradigms (4 Credits)

Course Description:

(Syllabus common to the streams: Social Sciences, Management, Commerce, Law, and Behavioural Sciences)

I. An introduction to Research

A brief history of Research – Objectives and types of Research – Action Research

II. Literature Review and Focusing Research Questions

Critical Analysis of Literature Review – Developing Research questions and hypothesis –different types of hypotheses.

III. Restrictions and Ethics in Research

Legal restrictions in Research formulations- BPS/APA Ethics code – Ethical issues-Assessing the ethical feasibility of the research – Ethical guidance in conducting research with children.

IV. From Research Questions to Data Collection

Collecting Quantitative Data: Selecting and developing of quantitative instruments or techniques- Construction and standardization of different tests- Achievement Test, Attitude scale, Interest inventories – Reliability and Validity.

Sampling — Different Types - Sampling Errors - Type I and Type II errors - Different types of variables.

Research Designs – Survey Research, Experimental Research, Quasi experimental Research,

Historical Research, Analytical Research, Correlational Research.

Qualitative Research – Diversity in qualitative Research – Case studies, ethnography –grounded theory – Discourse Analysis, Interpretive phenomenological Analysis, Triangulation.

Mixed Method Research- combining qualitative and quantitative data, Designs in Mixed method research

V. Data Analysis and Interpretation:

Data processing and Analysing strategies- Descriptive Analysis – Central Tendency and Dispersion, Coefficient of Variation – Correlation and Regression Analysis

VI. Reporting and Thesis Writing:

Structure and Components of Research Report – APA format

VII. Application of Computer in Educational Research

MS Office- MS Word, MS Excel, MS Power point, Free software – Linux.
Basic Principles of Statistical Computation using SPSS
Internet in Research- use of internet sites, search engines, E-journal and E-library- INFLIBNET

References;

- 1. John W. Best & James V. Kahn (2007). Research in Education. New Delhi: Prentice Hall of India Private Limited.**
- 2. S. Anandalakshmy, Nadita Chandhara, Neeraja Sharma (2008). Researching families and children culturally Appropriate Methods. New Delhi: SAGE Publications India Pvt.Ltd.**
- 3. Anthony, M., Graziano, A.M & Raulin, M.L. (2009). Research Methods: A process of Inquiry: Allyn and Bacon.**
- 4. Satarkar, S.V. (2000). Intellectual Property rights and copy right. EssEss Publications.**
- 5. SPSS- Operating Manual and handbook – latest version.**
- 6. Gay, L.R. (1996). Educational Research competencies for Analysis and Application. USA: Prentice Hall International (UK) Limited.**
- 7. Donald M.McBurney (2001). Research Methods- USA: Wadsworth Thomas Learning.**
- 8. James H.McMillan&SathySuhumacher (1989). Research I Education. A conceptual introduction. USA: Harper Collins.**



COURSE WORK SYLLABUS

COURSE II

SPSDCIC1302:

Innovative Reflections in Pedagogy (4 Credits)

Course Description:

This course deals with application of philosophical, psychological and sociological perspectives in Education Research. The Scholars will acquire knowledge to integrate the modern approaches in instructional practices in Educational Research. Also, the course develops the ability to critically analyze the topics pertaining to gender, environment and inclusion in Educational Research.

I. Applied Philosophy

Applications of Western and Indian Schools of Philosophy in the present educational scenario. Changes in values- Influence of Western culture – Role of Indian Philosophers in Value Education.

II. Applied Sociology

Social constructivism – Social issues and problems – Roles of Educator: Integrated/ Inclusive Education.

Human Rights Education, Women's Education – Women Empowerment, Rights to Education- National policies on education: Articles and Amendments.

III. Applied Psychology

Applications of theories of Piaget, Bruner, Gagne, Ausubel and Vygotsky in teaching learning process.

Class room applications of personality theories- Freud, Rogers, Bandura – Modern Techniques in personality.

Various types of Intelligences – Multiple Intelligences – Emotional Intelligence, Moral Intelligence – Spiritual Intelligence. Classroom applications of theories of Gardner, Goleman. Techniques of Improving Intelligence, Creativity and problem-solving ability.

Assessment of Intelligence and personality – Modern Techniques.

Psycho- somatic disorders in children – Drug addiction, use of narcotics, Hallucinogens etc. Measures for improving Mental Health and Mental Hygiene -Techniques of Guidance and Counselling. Effective classroom management-coping with undesirable behaviours.

IV. Modern Instructional Approaches:

-Computer supported collaborative Learning (CSCL) - Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL) Computer Aided/Managed Assessment - Cloud computing – M-Learning-Blended learning - Ubiquitous (U-Learning) – Concept mapping, mind mapping.

Models of Teaching-Families of models-Modern Teaching Models.

Preparation of lesson transcripts in any one model from each family and in one modern teaching model.

Instructional Design- Laurillard's Conversational Model - Gilly Salmon's Five stage model.

V. Assessment Practices

Identifying expectations – Advanced questioning – Effective assessment – Grading – Rubric designing – Accountability – Assessing Process skills and behavior.

VI. Quality improvement in Primary Education

Recommendations of educational commissions, Acts

Issues, problems and remedial measures of primary Education in Kerala
Innovations in Curriculum development and evaluation in primary Education.

VII. Knowledge Management

Knowledge Management strategies, Knowledge Management techniques,
Transforming information to Dynamic knowledge.

References;

- 1. Helnich, Robert, Michael Molenda and James D Russell (1989). Instructional Media and the New Technologies of Instruction – New York: Mac Millian Publishing Company. 0**
- 2. Batis, A. and Pook, G (2003). Effective Teaching with Technology in Higher Education. San Francisco: Jossey – Bass/ John Wiley.**
- 3. Brameld, T. (1971). Patterns of Educational Philosophy. New York, Hold: Rinehart & Winston.**
- 4. Mc. Celellan.J.E (1976). Philosophy of Education. New Jersey: Prentice Hall.**
- 5. Lucan, J.C. (1972). Our Western Educational Heritage, New York: Mac Millan.**
- 6. Creswell J.W (2007). An Introduction to Mixed methods Research, Sage Publications.**
- 7. Creswell J.W (2009). Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches, Sage Publications.**



COURSE WORK SYLLABUS

COURSE III

SPSDCIC1303:

Constructs and Practices in the area of Research (4 Credits)

Course Description:

The course provides in depth knowledge regarding the constructs and practices of the topic of research. The recent trends and innovations in the variable under study is detailed and comprehended for making valuable contributions to the domain of knowledge by way of the research study undertaken.

COURSE IV

SPSDCIC1304:

Research and Publication Ethics (2 Credits) Theory

Course Description:

The course provides in depth knowledge regarding the constructs and practices of the topic of research. The recent trends and innovations in the variable under study is detailed and comprehended for making valuable contributions to the domain of knowledge by way of the research study undertaken.

I. Philosophy and Ethics

Introduction to Philosophy: definition, nature and scope, concept, branches.
Ethics: Definition, moral philosophy, nature of moral judgements and reactions.

II. Scientific Conduct

Ethics with respect to science and research, Intellectual honesty and research integrity, Scientific misconducts: Falsification, Fabrication and Plagiarism (FFP), Redundant publications: duplicate and overlapping publications, salami slicing.

Selective reporting and misrepresentation of data

III. Publication Ethics

Publication ethics: definition, introduction and importance

Best practices/standards setting initiatives and guidelines: COPE, WAME etc. Conflicts of interest.

Publication misconduct: Definition, concept, problems that lead to unethical behavior and vice versa, types.

Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributor ship
Identification of publication misconduct, complaints and appeals Predatory publishers and journals

Practice

IV. Open Access Publishing

Open access publications and initiatives, SHERPA/ROMEO online resource to check publisher copyright & self-archiving policies

Software tool to identify predatory publications developed by SPPU

Journal finder/journal suggestion tools viz. JANE, Elsevier Journal Finder, Springer Journal Suggester, etc.

V. Publication Misconduct

- **Group Discussions**

Subject specific ethical issues, FFP, authorship Conflicts of interest
Complaints and appeals: examples and fraud from India and abroad.

- **Software tools**

Use of plagiarism software like Turnitin, Urkund and other open source software tools.

VI. Databases And Research Metrics

- **Databases**

Indexing databases

Citation databases: Web of Science, Scopus etc.

- **Research Metrics**

Impact factor of journal as per Journal Citation Report, SNIP, SJR, IPP, Cite Score Metrics: h-index, g index, i10 index, altmetrics

TIME FRAME FOR Ph.D. RESEARCH WORK

Name of the Research Scholar	
Research Supervisor	

ACTIVITIES AND WORK DETAILS	MONTHS	PERIOD
Doctoral Committee (every 6 months)		
Attending an International/National Seminar/Conference & Presentation		
Publishing a Research Paper in UGC CARE/ Peer Reviewed Journal		
Preparation of tools (Draft)		
Preparation of tools (Final)		
Preparation of Instructional Material (Draft)		
Preparation of Instructional Material (Final)		
Data collection & related work		

Attending an International/National Seminar/ Conference & Presentation		
Publishing a Research Paper in UGC CARE/ Peer Reviewed Journal		
Statistical analysis		
Writing of the analysis chapter		
First draft of the thesis (all chapters)		
Publishing a Research Paper in UGC CARE/ Peer Reviewed Journal		
Second draft of the thesis (all chapters including bibliography)		
Pre-Ph.D Viva		
Preparation and Submission of the Synopsis		
Publishing a Research Paper in UGC CARE/Peer Reviewed Journal		
Preparation of the Final Thesis		
Submission of the Thesis		