



HIMACHAL PRADESH NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, SHIMLA

Ph.D. Course Work

(Credit 04)

LEGAL RESEARCH AND METHODOLOGY

OBJECTIVES- Research is the backbone of knowledge creation as well as knowledge sharing. It contributes immensely into the designing of socio-economic policies whereby society grows. Thus, it is expected from a research to have fundamental understanding about range of research methods, give practical training for conducting socio-legal research, research tools, and providing guidance in the essentials of research report writing.

The Pre-Ph.D. Coursework is intended to cater the needs of aspiring young researchers, and appraise them about the perspectives of research.

Module– I: Nature and Purpose of Legal Research

1. Nature, Objectives and Purposes of Research; Aim of Social Research in Legal studies
Research Method v. Research Methodology
2. Approaches
 - i. Doctrinal Research
 - ii. Non-Doctrinal Research
3. Types of legal Research: Descriptive; Exploratory, Explanatory, Analytical, Critical, Historical, Comparative
4. Legal Reasoning: Inductive and Deductive: Scope & Significance

Module-II: Nature and Types of Socio-legal Research

1. Types of Social research
 - i. Quantitative Research
 - ii. Qualitative Research
2. Formation of Research proposal: (i) Formulation of Research Problem (ii) Literature survey (iii) Framing Hypothesis (iv) Objectives of the study
3. Methodology: Collection of Data (i) Primary sources and (ii) Secondary sources
4. Techniques of Data Collection (i) Interview Technique (ii) Questionnaire Technique (iii) Observation Technique;
5. Identification of Methodological tools: (i) Survey, (ii) Sampling and (iii) Scaling techniques.

Module III: Data Interpretation and Analysis


1. Quantitative Data Analysis
2. Coding and Decoding
3. Data Entry
4. Drawing inferences: Analysis of data

Module-IV: Writing Thesis

1. Components of Dissertation/Thesis
2. Organization of Research work; Chapters, Headings, Writing style, Conclusion
3. Citation Patterns: Footnotes (uniformity in citation and method)
4. Bibliography Arrangement

SUGGESTED READINGS:

- P.M. Bakshi, Legal Research and Law Reforms in S. K. Verma and M. Afzal Wani, (eds.), Legal Research and methodology (Indian Law Institute, New Delhi, 2nd Ed., 2011)*
- Anwarul Yaqin, Legal Research and Writing Methods, LexisNexis, (2008)*
- S.N. Jain, Legal Research and Methodology, JILI (1972)*
- S.N. Jain, Doctrinal and Non-Doctrinal Research, ILI, (1983)*
- Blue book the uniform system of citations (2000)*
- Ram Ahuja, Research Methods, (2001)*
- Robert watt, Concise Legal Research,,(2001)*
- C.R Kothari, Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques, (2006)*
- R.B. Jain, Sampling Methods in Legal Research in S. K. Verma and M. Afzal Wani, (eds.), Legal Research and methodology (Indian Law Institute, New Delhi, 2nd Ed., 2011)*
- B.N. Ghosh, Scaling Techniques in Socio-legal research in S. K. Verma and M. Afzal Wani, (eds.), Legal Research and methodology (Indian Law Institute, New Delhi, 2nd Ed., 2011)*
- P.V. Young, Scientific Social Surveys a. Research. An Introduction to the Background, Content, Methods, a. Analysis of Social Studies, 2ed. Prentice-Hall (1949)*
- K.K. Garg, Research Methodology, Omega Publications, New Delhi,2006*


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