

Minutes of the Meeting

Course Title:	Research Methodology for Economics (Common DSE)
Course Code:	ECON044
Semester	VI
Credits	4
Duration:	(3 lectures + 1 Tutorial) per week
Date of Meeting:	23.11.2024 at 2.00 p.m.
Venue:	Delhi School of Economics
Chair:	Dibyendu Maiti and Uday Bhanu Sinha

Course Objective:

- To build the capacity to conduct research in the fourth year at the undergraduate level.
- To help students in framing research problems, identifying gaps in the literature and proposing and testing hypotheses.
- To help students understand scientific approaches to conduct both theoretical and empirical research.

In the online meeting held on 23 November 2024 at 2 PM, a sub-committee was constituted to make the detailed reading list and deliberate upon the pattern of continuous assessment and end-term examination pattern. The committee consisted of the following teachers:

1. Dr. Swarup Santra, Satyawati College (M)
2. Dr. R. Ahalya, Daulat Ram College
3. Aakriti Saini, Daulat Ram College

Unit 1: Starting a Research Paper (10 hours)

Chapter 1, 2, 4, 7 (including appendix) from Greenlaw, S. A. (2005). Doing Economics: A guide to understanding and carrying out economic research. Boston: Cengage Learning.

Chapter 1 from Bhattacharjee, A. (2012). Social science research: Principles, methods, and practices. University of South Florida.

*Chapter 2 from Neugeboren, R. H. (2005). The Student's Guide to Writing Economics. Routledge

Unit 2 Sources of Data and Literature (9 hours)

Chapter 3 and 6 from Greenlaw, S. A. (2005). Doing Economics: A guide to understanding and carrying out economic research. Boston: Cengage Learning.

Rao, Subba K.G.K. (2003), 'Indian Statistical System at Crossroads', Volume 38, issue 14, pp 1421-1424.

Kumar, Arjun (2023). 'The state of Indian Statistical System: Evolution and Challenges', Impact and Policy Research Review, Policy Perspectives.

World Bank data: https://dimewiki.worldbank.org/Primary_Data_Collection

Unit 3 Creating New Data (8 hours)

Chapter 9 from Greenlaw, S. A. (2005). *Doing Economics: A guide to understanding and carrying out economic research*. Boston: Cengage Learning.

Chapter 1 (till 1.3 pg 40) Deaton, Angus. *The analysis of household surveys (reissue edition with a new preface): A microeconomic approach to development policy*. World Bank Publications, 2019

Chapter 1 from Duflo, Esther, and Abhijit Banerjee, eds. *Handbook of field experiments*. Volume 1. Elsevier, 2017.

Unit 4 Analyzing Data (9 hours)

Chapter 7 from John A. Rice (2007). *Mathematical Statistics and Data Analysis*, 3rd ed. Thomson Brooks/Cole.

Chapter 2 and 5 from Bhattacharjee, A. (2012). *Social Science Research: Principles, methods, and practices*. University of South Florida.

*Chapter 4 (except 4.7), 6, 10 from Huntington-Klein, N. (2021). *The effect: An introduction to research design and causality*. Chapman and Hall/CRC.

Blazquez, D., & Domenech, J. (2018). **Big Data** sources and methods for social and economic analyses. *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, 130, 99-113.

Unit 5 Writing a Research Paper (5 hours)

Chapter 12 from Greenlaw, S. A. (2005). *Doing Economics: A guide to understanding and carrying out economic research*. Boston: Cengage Learning.

*Elsevier learning Modules on writing and technical writing skills

<https://researcheracademy.elsevier.com/writing-research/technical-writing-skills>

Notes:

The following points were proposed by the sub-committee for enhancing research outcomes in the fourth year.

- The starred (*) are readings for teachers. No questions will be asked from them in the final end-of-semester exam.
- This paper is designed to help students in conducting scientific research; it is not an econometrics paper.
- Under continuous assessment, teachers should introduce at least two secondary datasets (World Bank, RBI, CSO, PLFS and NSO) to the students.
- Students should be encouraged to visit the **Elsevier website** and study the modules on research design and writing skills.

- Students should be made aware of research ethics and the consequences of plagiarism.
- Students should be encouraged to read articles from reputed international journals. They should familiarize themselves with the JEL classifications and databases like Google Scholar, JSTOR, SCOPUS, and Web of Science.
- For unit 5, students should be given instructions about abstract writing, footnotes, endnotes, citations, APA reference style, etc.
- College teachers can arrange an orientation after coordinating with the librarian of their respective colleges to help students in accessing JSTOR and other online journals in the field of Economics subscribed by the college library.

Main Readings for students:

1. Greenlaw (2005): 'Doing Economics: A guide to understanding and carrying out economic research' Boston: Cengage Learning.
2. Bhattacharjee, A. (2012). Social science research: Principles, methods, and practices. University of South Florida.
3. Deaton, Angus. The analysis of household surveys (reissue edition with a new preface): A microeconomic approach to development policy. World Bank Publications, 2019
4. Duflo, Esther, and Abhijit Banerjee, eds. Handbook of field experiments. Volume 1. Elsevier, 2017.
5. John A. Rice (2007). Mathematical Statistics and Data Analysis, 3rd edition Thomson Brooks/Cole.

Recommended Readings for teachers that can be used for giving assignments/projects:

Duflo, Esther, and Abhijit Banerjee, eds. Handbook of field experiments. Volume 1 and 2. Elsevier, 2017.

Huntington-Klein, N. (2021). The Effect: An introduction to research design and causality. Chapman and Hall/CRC.

Some Suggestive Open-source Database for Assessment:

1. World Bank: <https://data.worldbank.org/>
2. International Monetary Fund Data: <https://www.imf.org/en/Data>
3. Reserve Bank of India database: <https://dbie.rbi.org.in/#/dbie/home>
4. Ministry of Statistics for Program Implementation: www.mospi.gov.in
5. Open Government Data Platform India: <https://data.gov.in/>

Assessment and End Semester Examination:

Internal Assessment will comprise one test and one assignment.

Continuous Assessment will comprise term papers, research projects and presentations.

The end-semester examination would be of 90 marks.

Unit wise weightage for End-Semester Examination

Unit 1 25%

Unit 3 25%

Unit 4 25%

Unit 2 and 5 25%