**University of Sargodha**

**Department of Information Management**

1st Semester 2020 (Ph.D)

**Advanced Research Methods (IM-801)**

Instructor: Dr. Shamshad Ahmed Venue: Class Room

Class Timings: Tuesday: 2:00 – 5:00 (Evening)

**COURSE OUTLINE**

This course focuses on advanced search strategies and techniques required to effectively and efficiently use research techniques for retrieving, analyzing, writing and publishing research. It is designed around a series of hands-on exercises and projects that allow students to apply or use the concepts, principles and resources covered in class in the information search process. The course is primarily designed for students planning to work in research libraries and information centers.

**COURSE GOALS AND-OBJECTIVES**

1. Develop an understanding of the interpersonal and communication skills needed to carry out successful interviews and searches
2. Learn various ways to analyze inquiries and identify keywords and other search concepts in an information request in order to properly assess clients information needs
3. Learn query languages of several commercially available online systems
4. Develop advanced skills to analyze data (SPSS, NVIVO)
5. Learn to interpret, evaluate, and present search results
6. Report writing

The goals and objectives of the course will be achieved through readings, lectures, in- class discussions, examination, quizzes, assignments, hands on practice and use of key retrieval systems.

**EXPECTATIONS**

* This course heavily relies on lecturing and in class activities which necessitate regular attendance. The in-class activities will generate a considerable amount of student questions that will require the instructor’s immediate attention and patience and tolerance from everyone.
* All readings and assignments must be completed prior to class. This is necessary for you to understand the content and make the best out of each class.
* The instructor reserves the right to make, with notice, adjustments to the calendar and content of this course syllabus.

**COURSE CONTENTS**

**Session No. 1:**

1. Explanatory Sequential Design
2. When to Choose Explanatory Design
3. Explanatory Design Procedure

**Session No. 2:**

1. Explanatory design variants
2. Strengths of Explanatory Design
3. Challenges in using the explanatory design

**Session No. 3:**

1. Key Points to understands the Mixed Method Research
2. Definition of Mixed Method Research
3. Need/Why-Mixed Methods Research

**Session No. 4:**

1. Exploratory Sequential Design
2. The exploratory design procedure
3. Reasons to use or when to choose exploratory sequential design
4. Philosophical assumptions behind the exploratory design

**Session No. 4:**

1. Strengths of exploratory design
2. Challenges in using the exploratory design
3. Exploratory design variants
4. Theory development variant
5. Instrument development variant

**Session No. 5:**

## Worldviews of mix method research

1. Worldviews used in research
2. Levels of developing a research study
3. Paradigm worldview

**Session No. 6:**

1. Research Methodology
2. Research Method
3. Elements of worldviews

**Session No. 7:**

1. [Principles For Designing A Mixed Methods Study](#_Toc497644924)
2. [Fixed Mixed Methods](#_Toc497644925)
3. [Emergent Mixed Methods Designs](#_Toc497644926)
4. [Key Decisions In Choosing A Mixed Methods Design](#_Toc497644930)

**Session No. 8:**

1. [What is Strand](#_Toc497644931) and [Types of Strands?](#_Toc497644932)
2. [Determine the Level of Interaction between the Quantitative and Qualitative Strands](#_Toc497644935)
3. T[he explanatory sequential design](#_Toc497650860)
4. The exploratory sequential design

**Session No. 9:** Midterm Examination

**Session No. 10:**

1. The embedded design
2. The Convergent Parallel Design
3. Strengths of the convergent design
4. Designing and conducting mixed methods research
5. Philosophical assumptions behind the convergent design

**Session No. 11:**

1. The convergent design procedures/Step
2. Challenges in using the convergent design
3. Convergent design variants

**Session Mo. I2:**

1. Collecting data in mixed method research
2. Procedures in collecting quantitative and qualitative data
3. Data collection in mixed methods (Convergent, Explanatory, Exploratory, Embedded, Transformative, Multiphase design)

**Session No.** 13:

1. Analyzing and interpreting data in mixed methods research
2. The basics of quantitative and qualitative data analysis
3. Preparing the data for analysis
4. Data analysis and interpretation within mixed methods design

**Session No. 14:**

1. Writing and evaluating mixed method research
2. General guidelines for writing
3. Relate the structure to the mixed methods design
4. Dissertation or thesis

**Session No. 15:** General Discussion & Review of all the Syllabus

**Session No. 16:** **Final Examination**