

Course Description:

This is a compulsory course for all students and is introduced to develop the writing, research and analytical skills of law students. The course will focus on basic research strategy and how to find and use primary and secondary legal sources. The objective of the course is to have a strong research-oriented ethos in law colleges/institutions to enable law students to undertake both theoretical and practical research in all fields of law and legal studies. The course is extremely useful, for law students will be required to submit their written research work as a Final Year Research Project.

Learning Outcomes

After completion of this course the students shall be able to:

- Differentiate among various elements of the methods of research and techniques used for studying law.
- Explain techniques of research involved in formulating research questions, identifying and conceptualizing theoretical constructs and converting them into observable variables and theoretical hypotheses into operational ones.
- Apply and evaluate basic elements of a research process.
- Design legal research by integrating their idea with theoretical and conceptual framework.

Course Content:

- The Role of Research in Law
- Research Ethics
- Legal Research Problems and Hypotheses
- Conceptualizations in Legal Research
- Using Legal Research Sources
- Composing the Legal Argument
- The Reasoning and the Evidence
- Sampling Design
- Textual and Content Analyses
- Survey Method
- Case Study Method

- Participant Observation Research
- Data Analysis and Argumentation
- Proposal Writing

References:

- a. Ellison, Carol (2010). McGraw-Hill's Concise Guide to Writing Research Papers. McGraw Hill Professional
- b. Gregory Bassham (ed.) (2008). *Critical Thinking: A Student's Introduction*.
- c. McGraw-Hill. Henderson, E. (2015). *The Active reader: Strategies for academic reading and writing*. Oxford University Press, USA.
- d. Lester, James D. (2010). *Principles of Writing Research Papers*. Longman
- e. Staines, Gail M., Bonacci, Mark., Johnson, Katherine. (2008). *Social Science Research: Research, Writing, and Presentation Strategies for Students*. Scarecrow Press
Stephan Elias and Susan Levinkind, *How to find and understand the Law*.