

CT423: Research Methods

L = 2, T=1, P=1, CH=4, CR=4

Course Outcomes:

CO1: Ability to apply various theoretical and methodological tools of research in the interdisciplinary domain of cultural studies.

CO2: Ability to construct appropriate research questions relevant to given research projects.

CO3: Ability to plan appropriate schemes and tools for collection of primary data.

CO4: Ability to make adequate use of ICT for collection, storage, analyses, and presentation of data.

CO5: Ability to demonstrate adherence to ethical norms of academic research.

Course Contents:

Unit 1: Approaches to Scientific Research: Empiricism, Positivism, Post-Positivism, Hermeneutics, Idealism and Constructivism, Critical Theory, Ethics in Research, Plagiarism, Copyright.

Unit 2: Identification of the Research Problem, Formulation of the Research Question and Objectives, Review of Literature, Formulations of Hypothesis and Thesis Statement, Data Collection, Analysis and Interpretation.

Unit 3: Data Collection and Methodology: Perspectives in Cultural Studies: Primary and Secondary Sources, Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods, Inductive and Deductive ways of Research, Ethnographic Study, Textual Approaches, Semiotics, Narrative Theory, Feminist Approach, Reception Studies, Social Constructionism and Reflexivity in Cultural Studies, Discourse Analysis, Case Study.

Unit 4: Proposal Development: Definition, Purpose and Components of Abstract Writing, Effective Writing Skills, Citations and References, Usage of Online Resources.

Textbooks:

Bailey, Stephen (2011). *Academic Writing: A Handbook for International Students*. London & New York: Routledge.

Pickering, Michael (2008). *Research Methods for Cultural Studies*. Edinburgh University Press, Edinburgh.

Suggested Readings:

Tudor, Andrew (1999). *Decoding Culture: Theory and Methods in Cultural Studies*. Sage, London.

Gary Hall and Clare Birchall (eds.) (2006). *New Cultural Studies-Adventures in Theory*. Edinburgh University Press, Edinburgh.

Barry Barnes, David Bloor & John Henry (eds.) (1996). *Scientific Knowledge: A Sociological Analysis*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago.

Holstein, James A. and Jasber F Gubrium. (eds.) (2007). *Handbook of Constructionist Research*. The Guilford Press, New York.

Lock, Andy and Tom Strong (2010). *Social Constructionism: Sources and Stirrings in Theory and Practice*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

May, Tim (2001). *Social Research: Issues, Methods and Process*. Open University, Philadelphia.

Neuman, W. Lawrence (2004). *Basics of Social Research: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. Pearson, Boston.

Vinken, Henk Joseph Soeters and Peter Ester (eds.) (2004). *Comparing Cultures: Dimensions of Culture in a Comparative Perspective*. Rill, Boston.

White, Mimi and James Schwoch (eds.) (2006). *Questions of Method in Cultural Studies*. Blackwell Publishers, Malden.

Sasheej Hegde (2014). *Recontextualizing Disciplines-Three Lectures on Method*. IIAS, Shimla

CT521: Audio-Visual Production

L = 2, T=1, P=1, CH=4, CR=4

Course Outcomes:

CO1: Ability to demonstrate ability to shoot, edit and produce audio-visual content.

CO2: Ability to examine grammar of screen and photography.

CO3: Ability to demonstrate skills of digital media production using mobile technology.

Course Contents:

Unit 1: Definition: digital photography, digital camera, camera lens, additional equipment, filter, light, accessories, positioning, depth of field, exposure; grammar of photography.

Unit 2: What is a documentary; Basic Styles and forms of documentary; Technology and documentary; Ethical Issues in documentary making; Documentary Theory and Issues of Representation.

Unit 3: Originating ideas, developing story ideas; Pitching ideas for documentaries; Budget and proposal; Getting acquainted with Camera equipment, light, and location; Screen Grammar.

Unit 4: Interview, discussion and preparation; Field interviewing process; script first draft; preparation of bibliography of films, books, articles and resource persons consulted or intend to consult; preparation of final draft and final shooting of length video; Editing and post production.

Textbooks:

Rabiger, Michael. (2004). *Directing the Documentary*. Focal Press, Oxford.

Nicholls, Bill. (2001). *Introduction to Documentary*. Indiana University Press.

Suggested Readings:

Aufderheide, Patricia. (2007). *Documentary Film: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press.

Curran Bernard, Sheila. (2007). *Documentary Storytelling: Making Stronger and More Dramatic Nonfiction Films*. Focal Press, Oxford.

Long, Ben. (2014). *Complete Digital Photography*. Cengage, Boston.

CT525: Community Dance in Assam

L = 1, T=1, P=1, CH=3, CR=3

Course Outcomes:

CO1: Ability to comprehend the layers multiplicity of meanings in the notion of community dance within different contexts.

CO2: Ability to demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of community dance within conceptual frameworks.

CO3: Ability to identify specific community expectations of dance and appreciate how dances serve different functions in different communities.

Course Contents:

Unit 1: Introduction to community dance, Role of dance within Community.

Unit 2: Introduction to Practice-led research in dance; Exploring dance across generations through practice-led research; Identifying prospective communities for dialogic engagement through dance [e.g., orphanages, flood-relief camps]..

Unit 3: Artistic, educational, political and societal issues within community dance.

Textbooks:

Amans, D., (2017) *An introduction to community dance practice*. Palgrave, McMillan Education.

Suggested Readings:

Snook, Barbara. *A Circle of Life* [Video] <https://www.ziln.co.nz/video/73>

Butler, M., Snook, B., Buck, R., (2016) 'The transformative potential of community dance for people with cancer', *Qualitative Health Research*, 26:14.

Martin, R., & Chen, R. (2020). 'Dance for the People: Community, Visibility and Guangchang Wu'. In *The People's Dance* (pp. 77-88). Palgrave Macmillan, Singapore.

Norfield, J., & Nordin-Bates, S. (2012). 'How community dance leads to positive outcomes: A self-determination theory perspective'. *Journal of Applied Arts & Health*, 2(3), 257-272.

Houston, S. (2005). 'Participation in Community Dance: the Road to Empowerment and Transformation?'. *New Theatre Quarterly* 21(2), 166-177 .

Wise, S., Buck, R., Martin, R., & Yu, L. (2020). 'Community dance as a democratic dialogue'. *Policy Futures in Education*, 18(3), 375-390.

Amans, D., *Age and dancing, older people and community dance practice*, Palgrave.

Buck R & Snook B., (2020) 'How might creative learning through dance support resilience?' *Journal of Human Behaviour in the Social Environment*. 30(3), 289-305.

Bilitza, Mia Sophia., (2021) 'Being the Facilitator: A Brief Research Report on the Motivation of the Choreographer and Dance Maker to Work With Heterogeneous Groups in a Community Dance Setting' *Frontiers in Psychology*, 12, 1-6.

<https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2021.601033>

CT529: Oral History Project

L = 1, T=1, P=2, CH=4, CR=4

Course Outcomes:

CO1: Ability to interview informants for oral historical projects.

CO2: Ability to demonstrate ability to plan and accomplish oral history projects.

CO3: Ability to develop best practices towards maintenance of ethical standards of cultural recording.

Course Contents:

Unit 1: Understanding oral history and its significance; Critical awareness about politics of writing and recording cultures.

Unit 2: Planning oral history projects; Ethical and technical preparations; Choosing themes and topics; Identifying interviewees.

Unit 3: Planning and recording conversations; indexing and archiving recordings.

Textbooks:

Ritchie, Donald A. (2003) *Doing Oral History: A Practical Guide*. Oxford University Press.

Baylor University Institute for Oral History (2012). *Introduction to Oral History*. <http://www.baylor.edu/oralhistory>.

Suggested Readings:

Yow, V. R. (2014). *Recording Oral History: A Guide for the Humanities and Social Sciences*. Rowman & Littlefield.

Pollock, D. (Ed.) (2005). *Remembering: Oral History Performance*. Palgrave Macmillan, New York.

Clifford, J., & Marcus, G. E. (Eds.). (1992). *Writing Culture: The Poetics and Politics of Ethnography*. University of California Press.

CT530: Cyber Ethnography

L = 1, T=1, P=2, CH=4, CR=4

Course Outcomes:

CO1: Ability to demonstrate understanding of the cyber space and the virtual communities as ethnographic sites.

CO2: Ability to apply the best practices and methods for collection of ethnographic data through participation and observations in cyber space.

CO3: Ability to relate the online world and its experiences with the offline realities.

CO4: Ability to develop critiques and nuanced perspectives on the proliferation of online activities in human societies.

Course Contents:

Unit 1: Introductions: Essentials of ethnography; Doing ethnography in cyber space: characteristics, scopes, and challenges.

Unit 2: The cyber space as ethnographic field: virtual communities, online activities and events; Sites of interests: social media group interactions, blogs, games, chatrooms, e-commerce portals and other sites of online interactions.

Unit 3: Planning and devising methods for online fieldwork: Identifying issues and research problems, observation, participation and data collection; Ethical issues and best practices.

Textbooks:

Hine, Christine. (2015). *Ethnography for the Internet: Embedded, Embodies and Every day*. Bloomsbury Academic, London and New York.

Kozinets, Robert V. (2010). *Netnography: Doing Ethnographic Research Online*. Sage Publications, London.

Suggested Readings:

Pink, S., Horst, H., Postill, J., Hjorth, L., Lewis, T., & Tacchi, J. (2016). *Digital Ethnography: Principles and Practice*. New Delhi: SAGE Publications India Pvt Ltd.

Hjorth, L., Horst, H., Galloway, A., & Bell, G. (Eds.). (2017). *The Routledge Companion to Digital Ethnography*. Taylor & Francis.

Dicks, B., Mason, B., Coffey, A., & Atkinson, P. (2005). *Qualitative Research and Hypermedia: Ethnography for the Digital Age*. Sage.

Fielding, Nigel; G., Lee and Blank, Grant. (2008). *The SAGE Handbook of Online Research Methods*. Sage reference.

