



Gujarat National Law University

ADVANCED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON PHILOSOPHICAL APPROACH TO RESEARCH IN SOCIAL SCIENCE AND LAW



15 - 18 February, 2018

Last date of Registration: 5 February 2018

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Advanced Training Course on Philosophical Approach to Research in Social Science and Law

15 - 18 February, 2018

Introduction:

“The scientist is a pervasive skeptic who is willing to tolerate uncertainty and who finds intellectual excitement in creating questions and seeking answers”

The goal of scientific research is to discover laws and postulate theories that can explain natural or social phenomena, or in other words, build scientific knowledge. It is important to understand that this knowledge may be imperfect or even quite far from the truth. Sometimes, there may not be a single universal truth, but rather an equilibrium of “multiple truths.” The interface between law and social inquiry has long been a domain of analysis explored by legal scholars and social scientists. In recent decades, the emergence of contemporary critical legal thought, the flourishing of the “Law and” movements, the rise of New Legal Realism, Empirical Legal Studies, and Global Legal Pluralism, the renewed interest in Islamic law and indigenous rights, the debates regarding humanitarianism and human rights in international law have opened new avenues for theoretical approaches.

Objectives:

The course is intended to develop an appreciation of law as a social phenomenon, to introduce influential theoretical perspectives, and to consider the variety of methods by which socio-legal research questions might be addressed. The course will attempt to provide students with an understanding of the nature of different theoretical and disciplinary approaches to the study of law which will equip them with

the perspective necessary to pose questions that are relevant to the field, and to appreciate the range of different ways in which phenomenon might be explored. The course aims at providing students the ability to assess which approach, methods and technical tools fit their research questions best, in order to be able to develop a sound research design.

The course also aims to provide an introduction to a selection of key approaches and debates in contemporary socio-legal studies, and discuss the possibility and need of integration of social sciences into legal research and foster while encouraging interdisciplinary legal research.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, and having completed the essential reading, the participants should be able to:

- Have an understanding on the assumptions underlying research in social science and law;
- Have an understanding of the philosophy of research and an overview of methodology and methods;

Improve students' ability to understand methodological foundations and correctly apply methods and practices in quantitative and qualitative social research.

Should be able to develop research skills and explore a variety of themes in socio-legal studies and draw on all these skills to produce a socio-legal research work

Tentative Course Schedule

Resource Person:

Dr. William Nunes, Associate Professor of Political Science, Gujarat National Law University.

Email: wnunes@gnlu.ac.in, *Contact:* 8128650855.

Duration: 14 hours.

Sr. No.	Date	Time	Duration	Topic
				Introduction:
1.	15.02-2018	1530 to 1630	1 hour	The contexts of Social and Legal Research
				The importance of research methods
2.	15.02-2018	1700 to 1800	1 hour	Philosophical and Theoretical Aspects of Social and Legal Research. (Defining Ontology, Epistemology and Axiology)
3.	16-02-2018	1500 to 1600	1 hour	Research paradigm
4.	16-02-2018	1630 to 1730	1 hour	Positivism, Post-Positivism and Legal Research
5.	16-02-2018	1730 to 1830	1 hour	Positivism, Post-Positivism and Legal Research
6.	17-02-2018	1000 to 1100	1 hour	Analytical Philosophy and Legal Research
7.	17-02-2018	11.30 to 1230	1 hour	Realism, interpretivism and postmodernism
8.	17-02-2018	1430 to 1530	1 hour	Hermeneutics and and Legal Research
9.	17-02-2018	1600 to 1730	1.5 hours	Habermas, Critical Theory and Legal Research
10.	17-02-2018	1800 to 1930	1.5 hours	Deconstruction and Legal Research
11.	18-02-2018	1000 to 1100	1.0 hour	Feminist Epistemology and Methodology
				Research Design
12.	18-02-2018	1130 to 1330	2.0 hours	Secondary Analysis
				Quantitative Data Analysis
13.	18-02-2018	1430 to 1500	1 hour	Evaluation

Registration

Last date for Registration: 5 February, 2018.

Fees: GNLU Students ₹ 750/-

Others: ₹ 1000/-

(Note: The fees includes Registration fee, Tuition fee and Course kit. Additional charges would apply for meals, break fasts, lunch and accommodation.)

Mode of Payment: <https://www.onlinesbi.com/prelogin/icollecthome.htm?corpID=627430>

Accommodation (University Guest House):

Single Occupancy - A.C. Room : ₹ 1500/-

Double Occupancy - A.C. Room : ₹ 2500/-

Training Guest House (Double Occupancy): ₹ 500 /-

Duration: 14 hours.

Number of participants: 30.

Who can participate?

Students (UG & PG), Researchers, Academicians.

Methodology: Lecture and Discussion method.

Evaluation: Group Discussion or Multiple Choice Questions.

This course would prove to be an excellent medium for the academic development of students as well faculty members considering the fact that there are only few universities offering this course.

