

Workshop
Research Methodology in Asian Studies
23-27 June, 2014
Maulana abul kalam azad institute of asian studies
Azad bhavan
1b 166, sector iii
Salt Lake 700106

Concept note

There has been widespread debate in recent years regarding the use of quantitative and qualitative strategies for research in Asian studies. Qualitative and quantitative methods in Asian studies have long been separate spheres with little overlap. Qualitative methods have traditionally been preferred by the disciplines of history and anthropology in particular, and sociology and political science to some extent. Economics has tended to rely almost exclusively on quantitative methods. However, recent innovations have highlighted the significance of both qualitative and quantitative methods. Today, academics have found means of complementing their preferred method, sometimes by borrowing from other disciplines. But several challenges confront mixed method researchers. These include selection of methods in such a way that the results of each method are improved by the usage of the other, and determining the best sequence of the usage of complementary methods according to the objectives of the study. There is no correct or single way to address these challenges; it depends far too much on circumstance, context, the purpose of the research, and the type of data required.

A common challenge faced by almost all researchers is that of conceptualizing research topic suitably, use of appropriate methodology and evaluation of work. These problems are evident when researchers confront in one or other form in the formulation of the research problems; review of relevant literature; deciding upon conceptual framework; selection of research design; formulation of research questions/hypotheses and testing of hypotheses, etc. One of the important aspects of this workshop is the application of both quantitative and qualitative research methods in the study of Asian studies. The 5-Days Workshop intends to expose learners to the salient theories and methodologies employed in research in the interdisciplinary field of Asian studies. By means of a weekly seminar series, learners will reflect on and debate the theories and methodologies applied in Asian studies. This course will complement and inform their applicants of specific theory and methodology

in Asian studies that will immensely help in enriching their individual projects. The workshop is interdisciplinary in approach, drawing on a range of sources. Asia is viewed through religion, globalisation, economic development, state, gender roles, population control, environment, issues relating to identity and cultural exchange. The workshop aims to provide an innovative platform for students to explore, study and be a part of the food, culture and linguistic panorama that encompasses Asia of the 21st century.

Workshop Objective

After successful completion of this workshop, students are expected to be equipped with knowledge and skills necessary to:

- Identify situation, perspective, values and belief of researcher in context of research problem.
- Develop skills to identify suitable frame of analysis and interpretation for logical explanation and generalization.
- Writing a research proposal in an appropriate structure by keeping recent developments in Asian study methodology in mind.
- Give an overview of the most important qualitative and quantitative methods in Asian study and to provide insight into the use and application of these methods in research.
- Select appropriate research methods by identifying its advantages and limitations.
- Use current technology, E-library and Internet for collection of material.
- Organizing data in suitable format for analysis.

Who Can Participate?

The program is designed for PhD scholars/researchers/young think tanks from various universities/colleges and institutions. Seats are limited, therefore preferences will be given first come first basis. To participate the workshop, please send following attachments and send confirmation by email **latest by 16th June 2014**.

1. Registration form (download from www.makaias.gov.in) along with Brief CV
2. Reference letter from Institution

Contact Person: Sk Aktar Ali, (M: 8902550280), email: ali.aktar@makaias.gov.in

Dr. Amrita Dey (M: 9830149440), email: amrita.dey@makaias.gov.in

Registration fees & Refreshment

Students (MA, MPhil) – 300 INR

Research scholars – 500 INR

Working lunch, tea & snacks will be provided for all participants during the workshop.

Structure of the workshop

Day 1: 23/06/2014

Module 1: Conceptual foundation of research

Module 2: Introducing Asia as a field

day 2: 24/06/2014

Module 3: Contemporary politics, societies and economies in Asian studies

Day 3: 25/06/2014

Module 5: Fieldwork in Asian studies

Day 4: 26/06/2014

Module 4: Qualitative & Quantitative research in Asian studies

Day 5: 27/06/2014

Module 6: Research reporting

module 7: relevance of local languages

Observations by participants, Concluding Remarks, Distribution of Certificates

REGISTRATION FORM

Workshop on research methodology in Asian Studies

Mumbai, Kolkata

(23-27 June, 2014)

Name (Block Letters) _____

Date of Birth _____

Department _____

Organization _____

Position _____

Educational Qualification _____

Topic of Research _____

Address for Correspondence

Phone no _____

E-mail _____

Signature of Applicant _____

Signature and Address of Forwarding / Recommending Authority

Proposal for Poster Presentation

A medium now widely used in the West as a means to give a chance to young scholars to present their work succinctly, vis-à-vis conventional paper presentations during seminars/Conferences/Workshops.

A poster is a graphically based approach to presenting research. In presenting your research with a poster, you should aim to use the poster as a means for generating active discussion of the research. Limit the text to about one-fourth of the poster space, and use "visuals" (graphs, photographs, schematics, maps, etc.) to communicate your work.

Following are the guidelines for Poster Presentation.

- The poster can be up to 1.5 meter high x 1 meter wide (use flexon for the posters). **We will provide soft boards for displaying the posters.**
- Your poster should be readable from a distance of 2 meters.
- Posters will be displayed in the same Auditorium, where the Workshop will take place. The venue, if changed would be communicated.
- The poster presenters would get an opportunity to interact with Guest Professors/delegates during tea breaks and at the end of each session.
- Poster presenters should ensure that the posters are displayed throughout the day and removed after the end of the last session.

TWO best poster presenters, selected by veteran Professors will get a chance to submit their full-papers to the Asian Annual of the Institute.

For Food festival

Keeping in mind the theme of the workshop '***Research Methodology in Asian Studies***', the Institute aims to host a Food festival for two days (tentative dates: 26-6-2014 and 27-6-2014) at our premises.

In this backdrop, the Institute will be happy to invite 'nationals' from these countries to showcase their food, culture at the Institute.

Provisions are open only for Cooked food to the venue—No provision for cooking at the venue; Utensils has to be arranged by the host countries.

Buy directly from the stalls. Tentative food festival timings: 5.30-7.30 pm.

Venue: MAKAIAS, IB 166, Sector-III, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700064.