SYLLABUS

For

Integrated Pre-Master of Philosophy (MPhil) Or Pre-Doctor of Philosophy (Pre-PhD) (IPP) Course Work

in

Library and Information Science

Duration of the Course: 1 (One) Semester

Department of Library and Information Science

Swami Vivekananda School of Library Science

Assam University, Silchar – 788 011 Assam

Objectives

The objectives of this course are –

- to make the research scholars proficient in methods and techniques of research and their application to the various problems in Library and Information Science;
- to give the research scholars specialised knowledge in respect of selected areas in Library and Information Science;
- to prepare specialized information professionals for managing changes in information organisation and access to information; and
- to explore feasibility of application of ICT in general and Web technologies in particular for information organisation and access.

Minimum Eligibility Criteria

The minimum eligibility criteria for admission in MPhil programme is 50% marks in each course paper. While minimum eligibility criteria for the admission in PhD programme is 55% marks in each course paper. However, the SC/ST/OBC candidates will be given 5% relaxation of marks in both PhD and MPhil programme.

Course Structure

Course No.	Course Title	Level	Full Marks/ Credits
LIS501	Research and Publication Ethics	Interdisciplinary	100/2 credit
LIS502	Research Methodology	Multidisciplinary	100/4 credit
LIS503	Emerging Trends in LIS	Subject Specific	100/4 credit
LIS504	Term Paper	Research Specific	100/6 credit
Total Marks:			**400/16 credit**

Note:*The candidate who scores below 50% marks in each paper will be required to clearthe paper(s) in the next examination.*

Course -LIS501: Research and Publication Ethics

Course Level:Interdisciplinary

Full Marks: 100/2 credit

About the course

Course Code: CPE- RPE

Overview

This course has total 6 units focusing on basics of philosophy of science and ethics, research integrity, publication ethics. Hands-on-sessions are designed to identify research misconduct and predatory publications. Indexing and citation databases, open access publications, research metrics (citations, h-index, Impact Factor, etc.) and plagiarism tools will be introduced in this course.

Pedagogy:

• Class room teaching, guest lectures, group discussions, and practical sessions.

Evaluation:

Continuous assessment will be done through tutorials, assignments, quizzes, and group discussions. Weightage will be given for active participation. Final written examination will be conducted at the end of the course.

Course structure

• The course comprises of six modules listed in table below. Each module has 4-5 units.

Modules	**Unit Title**	**Teaching Hours**
Theory		
RPE 01	Philosophy and Ethics	4
RPE 02	Scientific Conduct	4
RPE 03	Publication Ethics	7
Practice		
RPE 04	Open Access Publishing	4
RPE 05	Publication Misconduct	4
RPE 06	Databases and Research Metrics	7
	Total	**30**

Syllabus in detail

THEORY

• RPE 01: PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS (3 hrs.)

1. Introduction to philosophy: definition, nature and scope, concept, branches
2. Ethics: definition, moral philosophy, nature of moral judgements and reactions

• RPE 02: SCIENTIFICCONDUCT (5hrs.)

1. Ethics with respect to science and research
2. Intellectual honesty and research integrity
3. Scientific misconducts: Falsification, Fabrication, and Plagiarism (FFP)
4. Redundant publications: duplicate and overlapping publications, salami slicing
5. Selective reporting and misrepresentation of data

• RPE 03: PUBLICATION ETIDCS (7 hrs.)

1. Publication ethics: definition, introduction and importance
2. Best practices I standards setting initiatives and guidelines: COPE, W AME, etc.
3. Conflicts of interest
4. Publication misconduct: definition, concept, problems that lead to unethical behaviour and vice versa, types
5. Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributor ship
6. Identification of publication misconduct, complaints and appeals
7. Predatory publishers and journals

PRACTICE

• RPE 04: OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING (4 hrs.)

1. Open access publications and initiatives
2. SHERP/RoMEO online resource to check publisher copyright & self-archiving policies
3. Software tool to identify predatory publications developed by SPPU

4. Journal finder I journal suggestion tools viz. JANE, Elsevier Journal Finder, Springer Journal Suggester, etc.

• RPE 05: PUBLICATION MISCONDUCT (4hrs.)

A. Group Discussions (2 hrs.)

1. Subject specific ethical issues, FFP, authorship
2. Conflicts of interest
3. Complaints and appeals: examples and fraud from India and abroad

B. Software tools (2 hrs.)

Use of plagiarism software like Turnitin, Urkund and other open source software tools

• RPE 06: DATABASES AND RESEARCH METRICS (7hrs.)

A. Databases (4 hrs.)

1. Indexing databases
2. Citation databases: Web of Science, Scopus, etc.

B. Research Metrics (3 hrs.)

1. Impact Factor of journal as per Journal Citation Report, SNIP, SJR, IPP, Cite Score
2. Metrics: h-index, g index, i10 index, altmetrics

Course -LIS502: Research Methodology

Course Level: Inter School Level Course

Full Marks: 100/4 credit

Objectives

- To introduce the different methods and techniques of research;
- To familiarise in the use of data collection tools, organisation and representation of data;
- To introduce different data analysis techniques;
- To guide in preparing research report.

Unit 1: Knowledge and Research

- Knowledge: Universe of knowledge; Modes of acquiring knowledge.
- Research: Definition, concept, objectives, and need; Research ethics.
- Scientific enquiry and Scientific Method: Validity, reliability, objectivity and subjectivity.
- Research Problem: theoretical and applied; methods of identification.
- Literature Search: Purpose and objectives in research, procedures; Review of related literature.

Unit 2: Research Questions, Hypothesis and Research Design

- Research questions: Need, importance and formulation.
- Hypothesis: Definition, meaning, formulation, types and testing.
- Research process: concept, steps, and variables.
- Research Design: Aims, objectives, scope, components and limitations; Problems in research design.
- Literature survey: Need and purpose.

Unit 3: Research Methods and Data Collection Tools

- Research Methods: Basic, Applied and Action research;
- Survey, Historical, and Experimental research.
- Descriptive, comparative, exploratory, case study and Delphi technique;
- Collection of primary and secondary data; Qualitative data Vs Quantitative data; Secondary data: Documentary and Non-documentary sources.
- Tools of data collection: Questionnaire, Interview and Observation; Scales and Check Lists.

Unit 4:Data Analysis Tools and Techniques

- Sampling methods: Types and techniques.
- Data analysis technique: Statistical techniques – Measures of Central Tendency, Mean, Mode, Median; Measures of Dispersion, Variance and Co-variance; Standard deviation;
- Coding and Tabulation; Graphical Presentation of data: Bar diagrams, Pie-chart, Line Graphs and Histograms.
- Software for statistical analysis: SPSS / MS-Excel.
- Testing of Hypothesis.

Unit 5:Research Report

- Report Writing: Structure and parts of Research Report.
- Presentation of findings; Preparation of Abstract;
- Footnotes, pagination, Annexure / Appendices; Proof Reading;
- Citation Style: Bibliography-purpose and scope. References Vs Bibliography. Citation Standards for Print, Digital and Internet resources-MLA STYLE SHEET, APA, Chicago Manual. Reference Vs Plagiarism.
- Preparation and Presentation of Research Article.

Reading List

1. Frankfort, Chava and Nachims, David. Research methods in social sciences. 6th Ed. Worth Publisher, New York.1999.
2. Adams, Gerald R and Schvaneveldt, Jay D. Understanding research methods. 2nd Ed. Longman, New York. 1991
3. Babbie, Earl. Survey research methods. 2nd Ed. Belmont, California, Wadsworth. 1990.
4. Bailey, Kenneth D. Methods of social research. 4the Ed. Free Press, New York. 1994.
5. Backstrom, Charles H and Hursh, Gerald D. Survey research. 2nd Ed. John Wiley and Sons, New York, 1981.
6. Blaxter, Loraine, Hughes, Christina and Tight, Malcom. How to research. Viva Books, New Delhi, 2002.
7. Festinger, Leon and Katz, Daniel. Research methods in social sciences. Amerind, New Delhi. 1970.
8. Fowler, Floyd J. Jr. Survey research methods. 3rd Ed. Sage, California. 2001.
9. Ghosh, B. N. Scientific methods and social research. Sterling, New Delhi. 1982
10. Goode, William J and Hatt, Paul K. Methods in Social research. McGraw-Hill, New York. 1952.
11. Gray, George and Guppy, Neil. Successful surveys: Research methods and practice. 2nd Ed. Harcourt Brace, Toronto. 1999.

12. Reddy, T. Subbi and Rao P. Bappa. Research methodology and statistical measures. Reliance Publishing House, New Delhi. 1995.

13. Young, P. V. Scientific social survey and research. Prentice Hall, New Delhi. 1982.

14. Phillips, D. L. Knowledge from what: Theories and methods in social research. Rand McNally, Chicago. 1971.

Course-LIS503:Emerging Trends in LIS

Course Level:Subject Specific

Full Marks: 100/4 credit

Objectives

- To familiarise with knowledge society and knowledge organisation.
- To understand modern management of Library and Information centres.
- To understand trends of research in Library and Information Science.
- To identify and use of digital information resources on LIS.

Unit 1: Recent Trends in LIS

- Literature Review, Critical Review of Research in LIS in India.
- Sources of Information on Internet: DOAJ, Wikipedia, Web Resources.
- Citation Style: Structure, Guidelines for Citation / References
- Modern trends of Research in LIS: Electronic theses and dissertations;
- Designing project proposals, Funding agencies, and LIS Schools

Unit 2: Digital Information Resources on LIS

- Digital Information Resources and formats of digital resources
- Subject Gateways and Digital Libraries on LIS, Subject Directories in Web.
- Journal Portals, Publisher's Portals, Book Reviews, Book Selection.
- Virtual Reference Tools: Commercial Tools (e.g. Xrefer.com), Cross-Publishers.
- Data mining and data warehousing

Unit 3: Web Technology & Interactive Digital Resources

- Interactive Digital Information Resources: Nature, Features and Types
- LIS Discussion Forums and Mailing Lists (ListServs) – LIS in general and Lists
- Blogs and Biblioblogsphere: Nature, Features, Types, Projects and Services
- Wikis and Wikipedias in LIS: Nature, Features, Types, Projects and Services
- Library 2.0 Tools: Information Mashup, Social Network etc.

Unit 4: Design and Development of Digital Library

- Traditional, automated, digital and virtual library systems – comparative study
- Digital Library Development: Hardware, Software, Process, File formats, Issues, policies and principles
- Free/Libre Open Source Software (FLOSS): GSDL, MyLibrary, WWWISIS, GENISIS etc.
- National & International digital library systems
- Evaluation parameters and models

Unit 5: Research Information Network

- Indian Research Information Network System
- Application of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Library Operations and Services
- Open Access to Scholarly Communications & Open Licensing
- Social Network Analysis and Big Scholarly Data
- Research Data Management in Higher Educational Institutions

Course-LIS504: Term Paper

Course Level: Research Specific

Full Marks: 100/ 6 credit

Objectives: Each scholar has to write a term paper in an area of Library andInformation Science under the supervision of a respective guide of the department. On following topic the research students have to write one Term Paper Examination. At the beginning of the session, the scholars have to select the topic with the consultation of the supervisor and at the end of the semester a students are required to submit a Dissertation /Report to the Examination Department of the University duly forwarded through the respective supervisors for evaluation.

Following are some illustrative topics which are not limited on which the scholars may select for Term Paper:

- Collection Development
- Public Library Movement in India
- Preservation and Conservation of Manuscripts
- National Manuscript Mission
- Digital Preservation
- Library Automation and Networking

- Resource Sharing amongst University Libraries
- National Library Networks: DELNET and INFLIBNET
- Library Consortia for E-Resources
- INDEST / UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortia
- Internet and Web Applications
- Library 2.0
- Web 2.0 and its impact on Libraries
- Semantic Web
- Digital Library Initiatives in India
- Institutional Repositories
- Open Source Software
- Open Access Movement : National and International Scenario
- Knowledge Organisation in Digital Era
- Storage Media
- Metadata: MARC and Dublin Core Standards
- Web technologies and access systems
- Common Gateway Interface (CGI) – architecture and programming tools
- (PERL, PHP, JSP)
- Web databases
- Web-enabled DBMS – Relational and Bibliographic DBMS
- Information retrieval in digital library systems
- Digitization and Collection development
- Free/Libre Open Source Software (FLOSS)
- Centralized processing and distributed access systems
- Evaluation of digital library systems