SNDT Women's University, Juhu campus

Department of Human Development

Syllabus for Research Methodology

Specialization: Human Development

Units	Details
Unit 1	Human development as a scientific, applied and interdisciplinary field
	• Scope and importance in human development
	• Based on Journal contents identify areas of research in human
	development
	Relevance of research in social policy making
	• Steps in the developmental research process
Unit 2	Common methods used to study children
	Systematic observation
	Self-report: interviews and questionnaires
	Clinical and case study method
	• Ethnography for studying culture
Unit 3	Design for studying human development
	Correlational design
	Experimental design
	Longitudinal design
	Cross-sectional design
Unit 4	Ethics in research on children
	Protection from harm
	• Informed consent and privacy
	• Violations of academic integrity during research

	Knowledge of results and beneficial treatments
Unit 5	The Research Process
	• Scientific approach to enquiry in comparison to native, common sense approach
	• Knowledge, theory and research
	• Role, need and scope of research in the discipline of Home Science
	Steps in Research Process and Elements of Research
	• Identifying interest areas and prioritizing
	• Selection of topic and considerations in selection
	• Review of related literature and research
	 Variables- types of variables including discrete and continuous variables d) Conceptual definitions and operational definitions Concepts, hypotheses and theories
	 Hypothesis- meaning, attributes of a sound hypothesis, Stating the hypothesis and types of hypothesis
	• Hypothesis testing- null hypothesis, sample distribution, level of significance, critical regions, Type I and Type II errors
	Research Design
	Research questions, objectives and assumptions
Unit 6	Types of Research
	Basic and Applied research, Qualitative and Quantitative research (brief review of differences)
	Historical research
	• Descriptive research methods – survey, case study, correlational study, content analysis, causal-comparative research
	• Analytic studies- pre-experimental, experimental research, quasi experimental research
	• Qualitative research, Ethnography
	• Evaluative research- general characteristics, use of qualitative methods in enquiry
	Scope and importance in Home Science
Unit 7	Sampling
	• Rationale, characteristics- meaning, concept of population and sample, and utility
	Types of sampling and generalizability of results

	• Probability sampling - simple random sample, systematic random sample, stratified random sampling etc - random and non-random samples, random numbers and use
	 Non-probability sampling - purposive samples, incidental samples, quota samples, snowball samples General consideration in determination of sample size
Unit 8	Tools for Data Collection
	• Primary and secondary methods of data collection
	• Different types of questionnaires, rating scales, check lists, schedules, attitude scales, inventories, standardized tests, interviews, observation
	• Development of tools, estimation of reliability and validity of tools
	• Procedure for preparation of the tool, administration of tools for data collection
	• e) Procedure for data collection
	• f) Planning for data analysis-coding of responses