

BA5202 BUSINESS RESEARCH METHODS

DETAILED SYLLABUS

OBJECTIVE:

- To familiarise the students to the principles of scientific methodology in business enquiry; to develop analytical skills of business research; to develop the skills for scientific communications.

UNIT I INTRODUCTION

Business Research – Definition and Significance – the research process – Types of Research – Exploratory and causal Research – Theoretical and empirical Research – Cross –Sectional and time – series Research – Research questions / Problems – Research objectives – Research hypotheses – characteristics – Research in an evolutionary perspective – the role of theory in research.

UNIT II RESEARCH DESIGN AND MEASUREMENT

Research design – Definition – types of research design – exploratory and causal research design – Descriptive and experimental design – different types of experimental design – Validity of findings – internal and external validity – Variables in Research – Measurement and scaling – Different scales – Construction of instrument – Validity and Reliability of instrument.

UNIT III DATA COLLECTION

Types of data – Primary Vs Secondary data – Methods of primary data collection – Survey Vs Observation – Experiments – Construction of questionnaire and instrument – Validation of questionnaire – Sampling plan – Sample size – determinants optimal sample size – sampling techniques – Probability Vs Non–probability sampling methods.

UNIT IV DATA PREPARATION AND ANALYSIS

Data Preparation – editing – Coding –Data entry – Validity of data – Qualitative Vs Quantitative data analyses – Bivariate and Multivariate statistical techniques – Factor analysis – Discriminant analysis – cluster analysis – multiple regression and correlation – multidimensional scaling – Conjoint Analysis - Application of statistical software for data analysis.

UNIT V REPORT DESIGN, WRITING AND ETHICS IN BUSINESS RESEARCH

Research report – Different types – Contents of report – need of executive summary – chapterization – contents of chapter – report writing – the role of audience – readability – comprehension – tone – final proof – report format – title of the report – ethics in research – ethical behaviour of research – subjectivity and objectivity in research.

REFERENCES:

1. Donald R. Cooper, Pamela S. Schindler and J K Sharma, Business Research methods, 11th Edition, Tata Mc Graw Hill, New Delhi, 2012.
2. Alan Bryman and Emma Bell, Business Research methods, 3rd Edition, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2011.

3. Uma Sekaran and Roger Bougie, Research methods for Business, 5th Edition, Wiley India, New Delhi, 2012.
4. William G Zikmund, Barry J Babin, Jon C. Carr, Atanu Adhikari, Mitch Griffin, Business Research methods, A South Asian Perspective, 8th Edition, Cengage Learning, New Delhi, 2012.