

**CENTRE FOR REGIONAL STUDIES  
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY OF HYDERABAD**

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**Course Credits : (4)**

**Course Coordinator : CRS Faculty**

**Course No. RS-701 (M.Phil Course)**

**Course Title : Research Methodology (Core Course)**

**Course Description :**

*We begin by examining debates in the Philosophy of Social Sciences and Social thought. The Philosophies provide us a grounding to evaluate strengths and weaknesses of arguments, validity of evidence, and assists in situating one's research work. Next we discuss a select number of research methods. These include: interviewing, focus groups, surveys, experimentation, ethnography, and so on. We conclude this course by delving into the elements of writing a research proposal.*

**Course Outline**

**Paradigms for Research, Part 1**

- a) Positivist Social Science
- b) Interpretive Social Science
- c) Critical Social Science
- d) Feminist and post modern Social Science

**Paradigms for Research, Part 2**

- a) Postpositivist; Social Constructivism; Advocacy and Participatory; Pragmatism
- b) Paradigm Wars, and Mixed Methods as a Way Forward
- c) Moving from Topics to Questions and Sources
- d) Using Sources—Literature Review
- e) Writing Statements of Purpose in a Proposal

**Strategies of Inquiry**

Grounded Theory; Interpretive Practices; Case Studies; Participatory Action Research

**Methods of Collecting and Analyzing Empirical Materials**

Interviews, Surveys, and Focus Groups;

**Quantitative Methods**

Surveys, Experimentation, and use of SPSS

**Reliability and Validity in Qualitative Research**

**Pulling together:** Proposal writing

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**M.Phil Course RS 702 -- Theorising 'Region' : The Indian Context (Core Course)**

**Credits -- 4**

**Course Co-ordinator – CRS Faculty**

**Course Objective :**

*This course seeks to introduce the student to the concept of Region. While this is an interdisciplinary course, the approach is largely geographical. A major engagement of the course is presenting a spatial understanding of the concept of Region, with specific reference to the Indian context. The course aims to inform young research scholars about the complexity of spatial diversity and disparity that constitutes India and the need for an interdisciplinary perspective to understand this mapping.*

**Course Outline :**

**Module 1**

1. Concept of Region
2. Characteristics and Types of Regions

**Module 11**

3. India : Historical Regions
4. Regional Studies
5. Regional Identity - Regionalism

**Module 111**

6. India : Physical Regions ( Topographic, Climatic, Natural Regions)
7. India : Cultural Regions ( Religion; Language; Adivasi; Caste )
8. India : Demographic Regions
9. India : Urban and City Regions
10. India : Economic Regions

**Module 1V**

11. Deccan : Regional Setting

**Module V**

12. India : Regional Development and Planning

**Course Evaluation :**

- Internal Assessment = 40 Marks (Three assignments : Weekly Report; Test; Term Paper )
- End Semester Exam = 60 Marks