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Syllabus for PhD programme

**Paper I: Research Methodology in Social Sciences**

**Course Objectives:** The Research Methodology course developed by Shaikh-ul Aalam Centre for Multidisciplinary Studies seeks to cater to PhD students of Social Sciences based at the Centre to help them acquire critical knowledge and understanding of various aspects related to research methods, besides focusing on ethical issues involved in the research process. The course involves two basic components: theoretical and practical, while engaging students on the meaning and scope of research in Social Sciences in a broader sense. In terms of theoretical aspects, the students are expected to become familiar with the idea of the 'archive' and 'sources', and other techniques including how to write a research proposal and develop a thesis, which involves among other things, referencing and bibliography. As far as practical aspects are concerned, students get an idea of how to go about archival and field research and engage in reading and critical analysis of the primary material and other secondary sources. The course also apprises students on issues related to research ethics and environment, and the process of publishing in various academic journals.

**Unit-I: Research: Ideas and Concepts**

- ① Research: Meaning, Scope and Types
2. Research in Social Sciences: An Overview
3. Research Concepts: Hypothesis, Research Questions, Objectives

**Unit-II: Research Techniques: Theoretical Perspectives**

- ① Writing a Research Proposal/Synopsis/Paper/Thesis
- ② Review of Literature
- ③ Source Criticism
- ④ Referencing and Bibliography

### Unit-III: Research Techniques: Practical Aspects

#### A. *Qualitative Methods*

1. Archival Methods
2. Ethnography
3. Case Study

#### B. *Quantitative Methods*

1. Sampling
2. Scaling
3. Survey Method

### Unit-IV: Research Ethics

- ①. Research Environment and Space
- ②. Privacy and Safety of Participants
- ③. Issues of Plagiarism and Copyright
- ④. Publishing in Academic Journals