# SOCL201-Sociological Research (3 credits)

• Course objectives and outcomes

Objectives:

1. To help students’ familiarize with the process of research in general and social research in particular
2. To familiarize students’ with the process of translating an ambiguous idea in a researchable question
3. To acquaint students’ with the knowledge of various research designs used in social research
4. To help students’ understand how to collect data and what needs to be done with the collected data (analysis)

Outcomes:

1. Ability to understand the foundations of social research
2. Ability to carry out a small research study independently
3. Understanding of data collection and analysis techniques
4. Ability to carry out an independent study for Final Year Research

• Catalog description

This is the basic research course in Sociology. Students learn the comparative advantages and limitations of different research orientations, the ethics of research, and strategies and techniques including experiments, field observations, interviewing, unobtrusive research and surveys. There will also be a brief introduction to qualitative research. In addition to lectures and discussions, students will learn basic research methods and techniques by doing a social research project of their own. This will help to develop skills in observation, interviewing, hypothesis building, theory building, questionnaire construction, some basic statistical tests, computer data manipulation, data interpretation, and research report writing.

• Text book(s) and references

1. Babbie, E. R. (2021). *The practice of social research*. Cengage learning.
2. Maxfield, M. G., &Babbie, E. R. (2014). *Research methods for criminal justice and criminology*. Cengage Learning.

• Syllabus breakdown in lectures

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| * Week | * Topics to be covered |
| 1 | * Science & Social Research |
| 2 | 1. Social Inquiry: Ethics 2. Inquiry, Theory, & Paradigms 3. How to write a research proposal |
| 3 | * Inquiry, Theory & Paradigms (Continued) |
| 4 | * Consuming & creating Social Research |
| 5 | * Purpose & Design of Research Projects |
| 6 | * From Concept to Measurement |
| 7 | * Typologies, Indexes, and Scales |
| 8 | * Sampling Logic |
| 9 | * Surveys |
| 10 | * Experiments and Experimentation |
| 11 | * Unobtrusive measures |
| 12 | * Paradigms, Methods, and Ethics of Qualitative Research |
| 13 | * Data Analysis (Manually) |
| 14 | * Using SPSS to analyze quantitative data |
| 15 | * Using SPSS to analyze quantitative data |
| 16 | * Final Term |

• Computer usage

Lectures are conducted in smart class. Sessions related to data analysis are conducted using SPSS as a data analysis tool.

• Laboratory

Not required