

**REPORT OF THE FIVE-DAY WORKSHOP ON RESEARCH METHODOLOGY  
ORGANISED BY THE SCHOOL OF PEDAGOGICAL SCIENCES (SPS),  
MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY (MGU) DATED 14-20 DECEMBER 2022**

Education has been one of the most embossed attributes that separated humans from rest of the species. The ever-increasing quest for knowledge has never reached its ultimate peak. The world has already turned into a convenient “private zone” where needs can be met in a timely manner and with minimal effort or stress. Research with a systematic and academic perspective has transcended subject boundaries and in one way or another and has impacted the lives of millions of people. The last few decades have shown signs of great progress through advances in technical pedagogy, curriculum design, and effective resource management. In a country like India, given the astounding potential of human resources and its geographic importance in pushing the boundaries of opportunity in relation to its diverse socio-cultural environment, the modernization of education-related research methodologies. There prevails great opportunity for innovation and progress in the nation.

In the post-pandemic world, the approaches and attitudes of educators and researchers towards the development and implementation of various educational programmes have changed significantly. Technology-driven lessons have opened a global reach to students and educators from all walks of life to affirm limitless possibilities and world-class standards in teaching. This has allowed researchers to make decisions on revising the existing standards and guidelines in education in anticipation of new visions and future prospects and problems. The five-day workshop on Research Methodology was organized by the School of Pedagogical Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University in view of expanding research opportunities and global educational demands in the areas of research ethics, research reporting, academic writing and research statistics. The workshop was conducted from 14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022. The workshop commenced on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at the Computer Lab of the School of Pedagogical Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, with the opening ceremony. The day's events began with an auspicious prayer by the SPS Choir. Ms Shamna Rahmath, Research Scholar, SPS welcomed the audience. The Presidential address was delivered by Head of the Department Prof Dr Asha JV. In her statement, Prof Asha JV emphasized the importance of such workshops in the context of the current educational scenario and acknowledged the dedication of SPS faculty, staff and students and their committed efforts to organize the event. Prof Dr Minikutty A, Dean, Faculty of Education, delivered the inaugural address, where she shared her thoughts on the growing demand for statistical analysis and research methodologies in education. Prof Dr Jaya Jaise took the honour of felicitating the event. Prof Jaya Jaise expressed hopes and expectations regarding the outcomes of the workshop. The orientation of the programme was handled by Dr Sibu G Netto, where he presented the daily schedule of the five-day workshop. The inaugural session concluded with the vote of thanks by Research Scholar Mr Ajomon George.

The workshop on the first day of the seminar began at 11:30 am, after the session break. The resource person of the day was Dr Divya C Senan, Assistant Professor, Department of Education, University of Kerala. Dr Divya C Senan, is a renowned educationalist, teacher educator and subject expert, and an alumnus of the SPS. The session of the first day was based on the topic *Ethical Research Writing*. In the initial session, Dr Divya C Senan introduced the different areas concerning scientific research which included academic integrity, responsibility, conduct and publication ethics, followed by study on SCOPUS data regarding publication of articles and journals. Dr Divya C Senan, with her prolific teaching skills and

academic repertoire has managed to educate the audience on the emerging threats created by the predatory journals in the field of educational research with the help of statistical data. The session on Research ethics highlighted on the COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics), IRB (Institutional Review Board) and procedural guidelines for paper submission to the ethics committee. Later, the various forms of plagiarism were explained in detail with examples.

The afternoon session comprised of an interactive discussion, wherein the research scholar encouraged the audience to make queries and suggestions regarding the topic that was discussed. Good positive response came-in from the side of the audience. The session concluded at 2:30 pm and the vote of thanks was delivered by Research scholar Ms Sindhu Sebastian. The workshop on the first day proved to be highly beneficial for the audience where they gained insightful knowledge regarding the significance of ethics in research with respect to the current trends in research. Dr Divya C Senan presented a wide array of facts and concepts related to ethics in research writing, emphasizing on the global standards and demands.

The second day of the workshop was held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 10:00 am. The proceedings of the day commenced with welcome address by MEd student Ms Neethu Maria Mathew. The resource person of the day was Dr Jayapraveen J; Assistant Professor, NSS Training College, Pandalam. Dr Jayapraveen J, with his prolific content knowledge and unique style of presentation was able to deliver before the audience a meticulous session on research report writing. The workshop was based on the American Psychological Association (APA), its major characteristics, formats, and educational implications. Through the session, the audience were able to gain an understanding on the history of the APA, the general format of papers and in-text citations, and the various reference styles. Dr Jayapraveen administered the use of the latest APA-7 style, where he cited examples from various sources including books, journals, online media, magazines, etc. in order to deliver a comprehensive coverage of its implications in the area of academic research and publication. Thus, the session on APA facilitated the learners to distinguish between various styles of academic writing and citation methods.

The afternoon session included a short quiz on the APA, where the learners were made to identify the errors from the list of citations presented. The session concluded at 3:00 pm with the vote of thanks delivered by research scholar Ms Aneeta George. While considering the global standards in research publication, the APA is one of the most commonly used formats in academic writing. It is therefore inevitable for any research scholar or an academician to be able to equip themselves with the necessary skills and competence in APA so as to maintain fairness and ethics in research writing. The session on APA, hence attains utmost significance.

The third day of the workshop was held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022 with the welcome address by MEd student Mr Paul Joseph. The session began at 09:30 am and the resource person was Dr Christabell PJ, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Kerala. The session was based on the theme of *academic writing process*. The resource person Dr Christabell PJ who is a renowned academician, scholar and economist, began the session by presenting brief abstract from two famous novels, *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho and *Kasakinte Ithihasam* by OV Vijayan. This was followed by a discussion on journalistic writing and reporting, where the resource person presented the concept with examples from various newspaper reports. The learners were able to receive insightful knowledge on Academic writing, where the topic was presented in six stages.

The first stage highlighted on the importance of curiosity and inquisitiveness and its impact on the educational outcome of the students. The major characteristics of academic writing was

discussed followed by a presentation of the structure of research process. The components of Academic writing were explained, followed by a discussion on the significance of keywords in academic writing. The following stage was based on the tips for academic writing which included description on the structure and parts of a paragraph. The concept of Point Evidence Explain Link (PEEL) was explained with the help of grammatical exercises. The session on daily language and academic writing discussed on the relevance of skills and previous knowledge relating to academic writing. The sentence writing process was explained which was followed by the exercise on the use of tenses. The major components of editing and stages of writing were presented with the help of grammatical exercises.

The third session focused on the concept of plagiarism, where the meaning and definition of plagiarism was explained. Several examples were used to explain the concept which was followed by a description on the types of plagiarism, which included: direct plagiarism, self-plagiarism, mosaic plagiarism and accidental plagiarism. The final session described about the efforts to address plagiarism. The three major strategies of *regulation, prevention, detection* and *response* was discussed. The fifth session comprised on the student learning and awareness regarding plagiarism and the sixth session the concluding remarks. The session concluded at with the vote of thanks by Research Scholar Mr Gopakumar AP.

The afternoon session was handled by Dr Arun, Assistant Professor, National College of Teacher education, Vengola who provided valuable inputs regarding journal publication and availability of reliable academic websites. This was followed by a session on stress-management by research scholar Ms Roshini Salil. Vote of thanks was delivered by research scholar Ms Saritha.

The fourth day of the workshop was held on 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2022. Session commenced at 9:30 with the welcome address by MEd student Ms Athira VV. The theme for the session was *statistical software packages* which was executed by Dr Thiyagu K; Assistant Professor, Department of Education, Central University of Kerala. Dr Thiyagu is a prominent educator who has achieved Master's Degree in Education, Mathematics and Psychology and was awarded PhD in Educational Technology. His areas of interest included teaching of mathematics, educational psychology, ICT in education, research methodology and statistics and has almost 72 articles published on various national and international journals.

The technical session of the workshop commenced at 10:00 am with the brief introduction about on the purpose and use of statistical software's - *Jamovi* and SPSS. In the session, Dr Thiyagu demonstrated on the various statistical operations using the *Jamovi* software, beginning with the installation process. The audience were made to follow a step-by-step tutorial, which included the study on the interface, import of the data set, followed by the exploration and manipulation of the data.

The afternoon session dealt with the explanation on the descriptive Statistics, where Dr Thiyagu discussed on the different types of variables and scales of measurement. The teaching techniques utilized by Dr Thiyagu were highly innovative and beneficial for all categories of learners. This involved the direct participation of the learners, where the strategies like role play was utilised. The teaching strategies involved the presentation of academic memes, videos and pictures which conveyed the knowledge of even the most complicated statistical operations in apprehensible manner.

Through the session, the learners were able to receive the knowledge regarding the various statistical operations using the *Jamovi* software, which proved to be greatly beneficial for the MEd students as well as the Research scholars. Dr Thiyagu displayed great dedication and commitment to educate the learners on the procedural functioning of the *Jamovi*, where he constantly repeated the relevant steps and encouraged the learners to present their doubts and queries after each session.

The workshop on day four, hence benefitted the learners to receive a comprehensive understanding regarding the operations using the *Jamovi* software and its applications in educational research. The session reached its conclusion by 4:00 pm and the vote of thanks was delivered by research scholar Ms Suja KK.

The fifth day of the workshop was held on 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2022. The proceedings of the day began by the welcome address by MEd student Ms Revathi Madhusudhanan. The technical session commenced at 10:00 am by Dr Thiyagu with the discussion on the t-test. The various types of t-tests were explained using examples, which was followed by its corresponding statistical operations using the *Jamovi* software. The concept of ANOVA, its various types and ANCOVA was discussed in great detail; emphasizing on the meaning, definition and practical usage. The various graphical representations were explained using the *Jamovi* software, which included bar graphs, histograms, pie charts etc.

The afternoon session continued with the discussions on various statistical operations of the Item Analysis, MANOVA. Towards the end, an interactive session was conducted which highlighted on the significant points that were discussed on the day. The vote of thanks was delivered by research scholar Ms Asha Mohanan.

The valedictory function of the workshop commenced at 4.00 pm with the welcome address by research scholar Ms Divya Martin. Dr Ismail Thamarasseri; Assistant Professor, SPS did the honours to deliver the valedictory address of the function, where he appreciated the sincere efforts from the part of all the students, staff and faculty of the SPS to successfully host the event. Dr Ismail Thamarasseri expressed his sincere gratitude towards Prof Dr Asha JV for her determined vision and reformative steps to organize the event. This was followed by a feedback session where the audience put forward their valuable opinions and suggestions. The report presentation was handled by Mr Harisankar VP. The vote of thanks was delivered by Assistant Professor Dr Smitha S. In the concluding remarks, Prof Asha JV responded to the feedbacks from the audience. In the light of the successful implementation of the event, Prof Asha JV expressed her thoughts and plans on organizing more educational programs in the coming future which could be beneficial for the students. The programme concluded at 05:30 pm with the national anthem by the SPS Choir.

The five-day workshop on Research Methodology was indeed a magnificent journey towards the manifold fields of educational research, which has helped to acquaint the learners with the necessary skills, knowledge and competence to assist them in their future educational endeavours. The effective co-ordination and committed efforts from the students, research scholars, staff and faculty of the School of Pedagogical Sciences has hence, reaped the seeds of success on grounds of the positive outcomes and benefits at the end.



**SCHOOL OF PEDAGOGICAL SCIENCES  
MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY, KOTTAYAM**

**Five days workshop on  
Research  
Methodology**

**On 14, 15, 16, 19 & 20 December 2022**

Venue: School of Pedagogical Sciences, MGU  
Time: 9.30 AM - 04.30 pm



**14 December 2022**

**Research Ethics**

**Dr. Divya C Senan**

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Education  
University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram



**15 December 2022**

**Research Report Writing**

**Jaya Praveen J**

Assistant Professor,  
NSS Training College, Pandalam



**16 December 2022**

**Academic Writing Process**

**Dr. Christabelle P.J.**

Associate Professor, Dept of Economics  
University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram



**19 & 20 December 2022**

**Statistical Software Packages**

**Dr. Thiyagu K**

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Education  
Central University of Kerala, Kasaragod

## **ORGANISING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

- Prof Dr Asha JV (Programme Convenor)
- Dr Ismail Thamarasseri (Programme Coordinator)
- Dr Muhammed KV (Asst Programme Coordinator)
- Dr Sibiu G. Netto (Asst Programme Coordinator)

### **Sub-Committee (Registration & Certification)**

- Ms Bincy Xavier
- Ms Anu M George
- Ms Soumya Simon

### **Sub-Committee (Logistics, Technical Assistance & Programme)**

- Mr Blesson Varghese
- Ms Divya Martin
- Ms Shamna Rahmath K. A.
- Ms Seena Sarah Abraham
- Ms Geethu T.G.
- Mr Febin Jose

### **Sub-Committee (Reception, Refreshment and Hospitality)**

- Mr Ajomon George
- Ms Sabitha V. P.
- Ms Sruthi O.H.
- Ms Amrutha K. Vimal
- Mr Sijindas G. S.

### **Sub-Committee (Documentation)**

- Ms Gopika Krishnan
- Mr Subin K. P.
- Mr Harisankar V.P.
- Mr Paul Joseph





















