

## **SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH AND SOCIAL STATISTICS**

### **Introduction:**

This course is to equip learners to utilize, conduct research as service managers to improve services, evaluate, develop new services, and intervention methods, strategies, techniques and also, be an active consumer of other researchers.

### **Objectives:**

1. Develop an understanding of scientific approach to human enquiry in comparison to the native or common sense approach in various aspects and its process.
2. To understand major research strategies, meaning, scope, and importance of social work research
3. To develop an ability to see the linkage between the practice, research, theory and their role in enriching one another
4. to develop attitudes favourable to the judicious integration practice, research and theory and develop skills for use of library and documentation services for research
5. to develop ability to conceptualize, formulate and conduct simple research projects (includes basic research skills such as conceptualization of a research strategy and problem, writing a research proposal; developing tools for collecting data, use of sampling strategies, data collection, processing, presentation, analysis interpretation and writing research report, etc).

### **Unit – I**

Social Work Research: Meaning, definition, purpose of research, Social research and social work research. Scientific Methods: Nature, Characteristics, purpose and steps in research process; concepts; operationalisation of concepts, variables and its types, Hypothesis: Sources, Formulation, Attributes of hypotheses and types.

### **Unit – II**

Research design and sampling : Research design : Exploratory, Descriptive, Diagnostic and Experimental. Formulation of Research problem.

Sampling : Definition Principles, Types and procedures; population and universe, sampling Measurement: Meaning, levels of measurement: Nominal ordinal, interval and ratio; validity and reliability : meaning and types.

### **Unit III**

Sources and methods of data collection: Sources: Primary and Secondary; Research tools Observation and survey methods, Interview guide, Interview schedule, questionnaire: construction of questionnaire/ interview schedule, content, types of questions, question format and sequence of questions; personal interview and mailed questionnaire: Advantages and disadvantages - comparison, pre-test and pilot study.

### **Unit – IV**

Preparation of Research Proposal : Financial, time and personnel budgeting; processing; and analysis coding scheme, code book, transcription, tabulation; diagrammatic representation of data : Types; Report writing and Referencing involved in Social Research; Ethical considerations of Social Work Research; limitations of research.

## **Unit – V**

Social Statistics: Statistics- Meaning, use and its limitations in Social Work Research, Measures of Central Tendency: Arithmetic Mean, Median and Mode Dispersion: Range, Quartile deviation, Standard deviation and co-efficient of variation. Tests of significance: “t” test and chi-square test.

Correlation: Meaning, types and uses. Karl Pearson’s Coefficient of Correlation and Rank Correlation.

Computer Applications: Use and application of computer in Social Work research with special to statistical package for Social Sciences (SPSS).

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