**FEMINIST RESEARCH**

The course is designed with the intend to familiarize students how interdisciplinary Women’s Studies perspectives as informed by feminist scholarship shape and model new research techniques that emerge as change-makers in society. Thus, the main aim of this course is to create an understanding between the theory of Feminism(s) and action. The course will also examine a variety of issues and arguments that exist within feminist scholarship worldwide and will assess their meanings and applicability in the context of Pakistan.

#### Objectives:

After the completion of this course, students will be able to

* Develop Conceptual clarity about Philosophies of social sciences with the special focus on the philosophical roots of feminist research paradigm.
* Question how does feminist scholarship and feminist research challenges the ‘norms’ and ‘practices’ of civil societies?
* Provide a forum for the expression of their own understanding and perception of women, gender, and power structure so that strategies to be used beyond universities are formulated.

#### Contents:

1. **Introduction to Feminist Research**
   1. What is feminist Research?
   2. How it is different from other social sciences researches?
   3. Philosophical roots of Feminist Research Paradigm
   4. Theoretical background; need for feminist research; Research Paradigms.

#### Research T e c hni q u e s :

* 1. Ways of knowing women’s lives and experiences.
  2. Women’s autobiographies and narratives
  3. Qualitative, Quantitative, and triangulation methods

#### Research Process:

* 1. Identification of the problem
  2. Conceptualization
  3. Research Design
  4. Data collection
  5. Data analysis
  6. Connection of research with real life situation
  7. Research application

#### Data Collection Methods:

* 1. Preparation of standardized Questionnaires and tests
  2. Pre-testing, reliability and validity issues
  3. Structured, semi structured and unstructured interviews

#### Ethical Issues in Feminist Research:

* 1. Informed consent of the respondent
  2. Due recognition of the respondents
  3. Confidentiality and safety issues

#### Report Writing:

* 1. Use of library and information technology in Research
  2. Information sources
  3. Bibliographical sources
  4. Reference and documentation
  5. Types of bibliography
  6. Endnotes and footnoting.

#### Suggested Readings:

Agarwal, Bina. 1983. *Women’s Studies in Asia and the Pacific.* Kaulalumpur: Asia and Pacific Development Centre.

Aneshensel, Carol S. 2002. *Theory Based Data Analysis for the Social Sciences*. Thousand Oaks, Calif: Pine Forge.

Baily, Kenneth D. 1982. *Methods of Social Research.,* N. Y.: Free Press, (Second Edition).

Bowles, Gloria. 1983. *Theories of Women’s Studies.* Boston: Routledge & Kegan Paul.

BRuorbgeess, rt G. 1984. *In the field: an introduction to field research*. London:

Allen & Unwin.

Bryman, Alan & Burgess, Robert G. 1994. *Analyzing qualitative data*. London: Routledge.

Cochran, William G. 1977. *Sampling techniques*. New York: Wiley.

Eichler, Margrit. 1991. *Non sexist research methods: a practical guide*. London: Routledge.

Feldstein, Hilary Sims, and Janice Jiggins. 1994. *Tools for the field: methodologies handbook for gender analysis in agriculture*. West Hartford, Conn: Kumarian Press.

Fonow, Mary Margaret & Judith A. Cook. 1991. *Beyond methodology: feminist scholarship as lived research*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.

Gray, Ann. 2003. *Research practice for cultural studies: ethnographic methods and lived cultures*. London: Sage.

Grosz, Elizabeth. 1990. Jacques Lacan: *A Feminist Introduction.* London: Routledge.

Hesse-Biber, Sharlene Nagy, and Patricia Leavy. 2007. *Feminist research practice: a primer*. Thousand Oaks: Sage.

Hesse-Biber, Sharlene Nagy. 2007. *Handbook of feminist research: theory and praxis*. Thousand Oaks, Calif: SAGE.

Holland, Janet, Maud Blair, and Sue Sheldon. 1995. *Debates and issues in feminist research and pedagogy: a reader*. Clevedon, Avon, England: Multilingual Matters in association with the Open University.

Kleinman, Sherryl. 2007. *Feminist Field Work Analysis: Qualitative Research*

o*M*s*ethods.* L Angeles: Sage.

Letherby, Gayle. 2003. *Feminist research in theory and practice*. Buckingham: Open University Press.