



ACTIVITY REPORT

(Oct 2022)

“RESEARCH METHODOLOGY PROGRAM”

[under VENTEL Action Plan]

Organized by

MEHR CHAND MAHAJAN DAV COLLEGE

FOR WOMEN, CHANDIGARH (U.T.)

in association with

**Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural
Education (MGNCRE), Ministry of Education,
Govt of India.**

Workshop on Research Methodology [Under VENDEL Action Plan]

Activity : 'Workshop on Research Methodology' (October 2022) in blended mode to reinforce research aptitude among the students in view of NEP-2020.

Organised by : Department of English in association with the MGNRCE ,Ministry of Education, Govt of India

Objectives of the Workshop:

- i) To initiate the young learners into critical thinking and innovative perspectives
- ii) To acquaint the young researchers with the relevance of research in academic spectrum
- iii) To familiarise them with diversity of scope in research
- iv) To give them a framework for a structured strategy in undertaking research initiatives
- v) To generate awareness about Intellectual Property Rights among the budding researchers
- vi) To help them understand the nuances of various anti-plagiarism software so as to maintain ethics in research and publication

Practice:

12 October 2022: Inaugural Session



An Introduction to Research: Emerging Areas in Academic Scholarship'

Principal Dr Nisha Bhargava welcomed the resource person for the session, Prof Akshaya Kumar, Chairperson, Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh and extended her warm wishes to the Department of English for taking this academic initiative.



In the inaugural lecture, 'An Introduction to Research: Emerging Areas in Academic Scholarship', Prof Akshaya Kumar introduced the research scholars, students and other participants on the latest and emerging trends in research. Prof Kumar discussed the multiple possibilities in research in the English departments, like AI, Biological threats, Environmental Issues, Digital Humanities along with a flux of sociological and cultural areas. He emphasised on the importance of experimental, original and systematic research. He urged students not to take research just as a matter of course, rather to be alert enough to find new possibilities of research.

Prof Akshaya Kumar underlined the importance of integrity and honesty in research. He motivated the students to think and re-think of research areas through an original gaze to find new possibilities. The highly informative inaugural session by Prof Akshaya Kumar set the tone for the upcoming sessions and gave the necessary impetus to our participants and budding researchers.

14th October 2022 : Open Educational Resources and Research

Second session of the Workshop on Research Methodology (October 2022) saw Dr. Neeraj Kumar Singh, Deputy Librarian, AC Joshi Library, Panjab University, Chandigarh, as the resource person for the session on 14th October, 2022. Dr. Neeraj delivered a very informative and enlightening talk on “Open Educational Resources and Research” which centered around a very pertinent problem faced by young researchers in accessing and making optimum use of open educational resources like MOOCs, EPG Pathshala, etc.



Dr Neeraj Singh started his talk by highlighting the importance of online courses in the current teaching learning process. He also demystified popular perceptions regarding the copyrights and Creative Commons License. Dr. Neeraj encouraged the students to avail themselves of various freely available educational resources and raised awareness among them by giving handy tips and list of such resources for a ready reference.



15 October 2022: Structure of Dissertation

After an introduction to the importance of Research and need for accessing academic resources, the third day of workshop by Dr. Meenu Gupta an Associate Professor in the Dept. of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab was on 'Structure of Dissertation' on 15th October 2022.



She dealt with the ABC of technical writing of dissertation for Postgraduate students. She dwelt at length on the various parts of the dissertation and apprised the scholars of paying due attention to each and every detail of their project.



16 October-26 October 2022-----Preparation of Research Proposal by the Participants

Workshop on Research Methodology organised by the Department of English in October 2022

27 October 2022: Research Ethics

Prof Deepti Gupta, an eminent academician and a widely-acclaimed scholar, Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh, conducted a stimulating workshop on 'Research Ethics' on 27th October 2022.



She highlighted the problematics of Plagiarism in research as 'Cut, Copy, Paste' culture is sadly prevalent in the academia. Dr Deepti cautioned the students against this trend and exhorted them to follow ethical practices while writing research papers or dissertation. She gave hands-on training to the budding researchers on how they should attribute if they are referring to the online knowledge repository.



28 October 2022: References and Bibliography

Prof Aneel Kumar Raina (Retd) from the Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, was the Resource Person for deliberating on the strategies of writing 'References and Bibliography'.



He apprised the young scholars of the rationale behind citing sources, whether online, digital or printed. Prof Raina focussed his session on MLA 8th edition as Postgraduate students use it for their dissertation. He deliberated on subtle distinctions of using bold, italicised and underlined case, depending on the sources being mentioned in the Bibliography. The session was very enlightening as the students shared their doubts with the eminent academic.

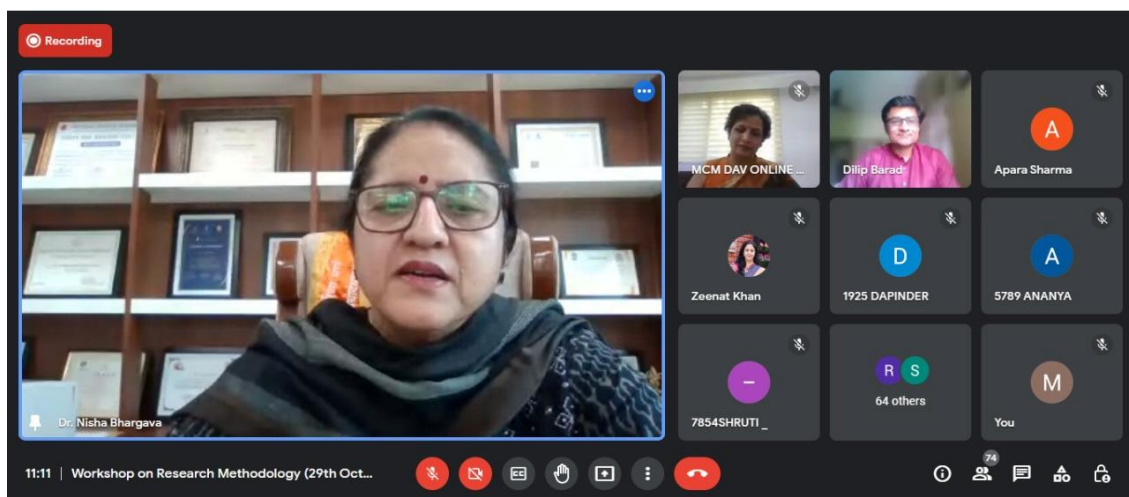


29 October 2022: Research Publications: Guidelines for Beginners

Prof. Dilip Barad, Department of English, M.K. Bhavnagar University, Gujarat was the resource person and the topic for the session was 'Research Publication: Guidelines for Beginners'.



It was indeed a very enlightening session where the budding research scholars learnt the nuances of research. Prof Barad began with an activity wherein the participants were to fill up the forms for identifying the key areas of their interest. This aimed at helping them formulate their research ideas. They also learnt how application of a theory to a text not only adds fresh insights but also helps them to explore new paradigms about the text.



He suggested that researchers should read their papers in seminars and conferences so that their scholarly endeavours published thereafter may be substantiated by the questions asked by the audience and remarks made by fellow researchers. He also added that one may refer to various websites like that of Taylor and Francis to explore journals and also to learn the steps

of publishing their research papers. The session ended with the participants asking various questions relating to research which were adequately answered by the resource person.

30 October: Doubt and Feedback Session

Outcome of the Programme

Around 95 students and faculty members of the Department of English benefitted from the interactive sessions in the Workshop. The queries of the participants were answered satisfactorily by the resource persons. The students felt motivated to take up research initiatives and to write dissertations specifically.

Principal Dr Nisha Bhargava appreciated the collaborative initiative undertaken by the Department of English to reinforce the research endeavours in the institution and expressed gratitude to Mr Samarth Sharma, MGNRCE, for his consistent support to the institutional growth. Dr Bhargava thanked Ms Neena Sharma, Head, Department of English, Dr Zeenat, Dr Jasmine Anand, Dr Sunaina Jain, Organising Secretaries and Dr Vandana Sharma, Nodal Officer, VENTEL, for undertaking this programme.