



**FACULTY OF LAW
CURRICULUM & SYLLABUS**



OF

COURSEWORK

FOR

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

IN

FACULTY OF LAW

**FACULTY OF LAW
SRM UNIVERSITY DELHI-NCR, SONEPAT
Plot No.39, Rajiv Gandhi Education City, P.S. Rai, Sonapat Haryana-
131029**



FACULTY OF LAW

VISION

SRM University Delhi-NCR, Sonapat, Haryana aims to emerge as a leading world-class university that creates and disseminates knowledge upholding the highest standards of instruction in Medicine & Health Sciences, Engineering & Technology, Management, Law, Science & Humanities. Along with academic excellence and skills, our curriculum imparts integrity and social sensitivity to mold our scholars who may be best suited to serve the nation and the world.

MISSION

1. To create a diverse community campus that inspires freedom and innovation.
2. To promote excellence in educational & skill development processes and to continue to build productive international alliances.
3. To explore optimal development opportunities available to students and faculty.
4. To cultivate an exciting and rigorous research environment.



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VISION

Faculty of Law is committed to provide Intellectual, Innovative & Inspirational environment and contribute to academic, scientific, research and legal knowledge through excellence and to produce judges, lawyers, legal consultants, researchers and administrators.

MISSION

1. **Academic and Research Excellence Focus-** To advance rigorous legal scholarship by fostering critical analysis, interdisciplinary research, and innovative thinking, contributing to the development of just and equitable legal systems at national and global levels.
2. **Social Justice and Reform Orientation-** To promote legal research that addresses societal challenges, upholds constitutional values, and contributes to social justice, human rights, and inclusive governance.
3. **Policy and Impact-Driven Mission-** To generate impactful legal research that informs public policy, strengthens institutions, and bridges the gap between legal theory and practical implementation.
4. **Global and Technological Perspective-** To cultivate scholars equipped to engage with emerging global legal issues, including technology, digital rights, and transnational governance, through innovative and comparative research



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Ph.D. COURSE WORK CREDIT STRUCTURE

Subject Code	Subject Name	L	T	P	C	Exam Hrs.	Max. Marks	
							Int.	Ext.
RES701	Research Methodology	4	0	0	4	3	30	70
^x CPE-RPE101	Research and Publication Ethics	2	0	0	2	3	30	70
22LPH101	Judicial Process	3	1	0	3	3	50	50
LPH103	Seminar on Contemporary Legal Issues	2	0	0	2	-	50	50
Total Credit						11		

^x Amended w.e.f. January 01, 2020, as per UGC D.O. No. F-1-1/2018 (Journal/CARE)



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Research Methodology

CODE: RES 701

Unit 1: Introduction to Research

Introduction, Philosophical Underpinnings, Meaning of Research, Objectives of Research, Motivations in Research, Types of Research, Research Approaches, Significance of Research, Scope of Research, Literature Review, Research Methods vs. Research Methodology, Research Process, Research and Scientific Methods, Criteria of Good Research, Research Questions, Research problem, Selecting the Problem, Necessity and Techniques of Research Problem, Qualitative & Quantitative Research, Research Proposal, Synopsis, Transdisciplinarity, Multidisciplinarity & Interdisciplinarity in Research.

Unit II: Data Collection & Sampling

Collection of Primary Data/Sources, Secondary Data/Sources, Observation Method, Interview, Libraries, Archives & Repositories, Questionnaire, Schedules, Case Study and other Innovative Methods, Research Procedure.

Sampling, Steps and Criteria for selecting a Sample procedure, Characteristics of Good Sampling, Types of Sample Design, Selecting Random Samples, Complex Random Sampling Design.

Unit III: Data Analysis & Interpretation

Measures of Central Tendency, Dispersion, Correlation & Regression, Chi-Square Test: applications, Steps, Characteristics, Limitations, Analysis of Variance & Co-variance.

Hypothesis: Meaning, Basic Concepts, Flow Diagram, Testing, of Means, Testing of Hypothesis testing of Correlation coefficients, Limitations of Tests of Hypothesis

Theory & Empirical approaches, Ethnographic, Comparative and Interpretative Research.

Unit IV: Research Tools & Ethics in Research

Computer Fundamentals, Basics, Data Representation, Word Processing Package, Creating & Editing a Word Document.



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Ethical issues related to Publishing & Plagiarism, LaTeX tool for Detection and Elimination of Plagiarism, Intellectual Property Rights, Copy Rights & Patent Laws.

Unit V: Research Report & Presentations

Structure & Components of Research Report, Types of Report, Layout of Research Report, Mechanism of Writing a Research Report.

Presentation: Tailoring the presentation to the target audience, Oral Presentation, Poster Presentation, Submission of Research Article, Thesis Writing, Visual & Delivery.

Reference

1. Adam Pzreworsky and Frank Solomon. *On the Art of Writing Proposals*, rev. edn, New York, 1995.
2. Blaxter Loraine, Hughes Christina and Tight Malcolm. *How to Research*, Open University Press, 2006.
3. Gerard Guthrie. *Basic Research Methods*, Sage, London, 2010.
4. Kothari, C. R. *Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques*, New Age Publishers, Delhi, 2018.
5. Rand R. Wilcox, *Fundamentals of Modern Statistical Research*, Springer, New York, 2010.
6. Ross, Timothy J. *Fuzzy Logic with Engineering Applications*, 2nd Edn. Wiley Publications, 2005.



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Research and Publication Ethics Code:

CPE-RPE101

OBJECTIVE:

This course has total 6 units focusing on basics of philosophy of science and ethics, research integrity, publication ethics. Hands-on-sessions are designed to identify research misconduct and predatory publications. Indexing and citation databases, open access publications, research metrics (citations, h- index, Impact Factor, etc.) and plagiarism tools will be introduced in this course.

COURSE CONTENTS:

1. **Pedagogy:** Classroom teaching, guestlectures, group discussions, and practical sessions.
2. **Evaluation:** Continuous assessment will be done through tutorials, assignments, quizzes, and group discussions. Weightage will be given for active participation. Final written examination will be conducted at the end of the course.
3. **Course structure:** The course comprises of six modules listed in table below. Each module has 4-5 units.

MODULES	UNIT TITLE	TEACHING HOURS
Theory		
RPE 01	Philosophy and Ethics	4
RPE 02	Scientific Conduct	4
RPE 03	Publication Ethics	7
Practice		
RPE 04	Open Access Publishing	4
RPE 05	Publication Misconduct	4



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RPE 06	Databases and Research Metrics	7
	Total	30

SYLLABUS IN DETAIL

THEORY

- RPE 01: PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS (3 hrs.)
 1. Introduction to philosophy: definition, nature and scope, concept, branches
 2. Ethics: definition, moral philosophy, nature of moral judgments and reactions

- RPE 02: SCIENTIFIC CONDUCT (5 hrs.)
 1. Ethics with respect to science and research
 2. Intellectual honesty and research integrity
 3. Scientific misconducts: Falsification, Fabrication, and Plagiarism (FFP)
 4. Redundant publications: duplicate and overlapping publications, salami slicing
 5. Selective reporting and misrepresentation of data

- RPE 03: PUBLICATION ETHICS (7 hrs.)
 1. Publication ethics: definition, introduction and importance
 2. Best practices / standards setting initiatives and guidelines: COPE, WAME, etc.
 3. Conflicts of interest
 4. Publication misconduct: definition, concept, problems that lead to unethical behavior and vice versa, types
 5. Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributorship



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6. Identification of publication misconduct, complaints and appeals
7. Predatory publishers and journals

PRACTICE

- RPE 04: OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING (4 hrs.)
 1. Open access publications and initiatives
 2. SHERPA/RoMEO online resource to check publisher copyright & self-archiving policies
 3. Software tool to identify predatory publications developed by SPPU
 4. Journal finder/journal suggestion tools viz. JANE, Elsevier Journal Finder, Springer Journal Suggested, etc.
- RPE 05: PUBLICATION MISCONDUCT (4hrs.)
 - (A) Group Discussions (2 hrs.)
 1. Subject specific ethical issues, FFP, authorship
 2. Conflicts of interest
 3. Complaints and appeals: examples and fraud from India and abroad
 - (B) Software tools (2 hrs.): Use of plagiarism software like Turnitin, Urkund and other open source software tools
- RPE 06: DATABASES AND RESEARCH METRICS (7hrs.)
 - (A) Databases (4 hrs.)
 1. Indexing databases
 2. Citation databases: Web of Science, Scopus, etc.
 - (B) Research Metrics (3 hrs.)
 1. Impact Factor of journal as per Journal Citation Report, SNIP, SIR, IPP, Cite Score
 2. Metrics: h-index, g index, i10 index, altmetrics



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SYLLABUS	
JUDICIAL PROCESS	
Course Code: 22LPH101	Continuous Evaluation: 50 Marks
Credits: 3	End Semester Examination: 50 Marks
L T P: 3 1 0	
Prerequisite: NIL	

Course Objectives:

1. To introduce the meaning of the Judicial Process and various theory of justice.
2. To explain the fundamentals and historical perspective of the Judicial Process.
3. To describe the different perspective of the protean face of the justice.
4. To analyse the latent aspects of Constitutionalism, imbibe in a constitution and its inculcation in the socio-economic and political transformation.
5. To evaluate the constitutional justice in the contemporary Indian legal system.

Course Learning Outcomes:

At the end it is expected that the researcher will be able to:

1. Recall the different meanings of the Judicial Process and Various theory of justice.
2. Explore Constitution as living and composite document to address the emerging issues and challenges to meet intergenerational divergence.
3. Apply the different perspective of justice in the contemporary judicial process.
4. Analyse judicial process of Constitutional interpretation involves a technique of adopting the law to meet changing social dimensions.
5. Examine the constitutional justice in the contemporary Indian legal system.



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Unit-1

The philosophy of Judicial Process

The meaning and nature of Judicial Process, Judicial process as an instrument of social ordering, American Realism and Judicial Process: History, Evolution and Contemporary Challenges

Unit-2

Comparative Justice

Debate between Indian and western thought in Ancient, Medieval, Modern and Post- Modern Era. Positivism & Neo-positivism, Liberalism & Neo-Liberalism, Marxism & Neo Marxism, Socialism & Neo-Socialism, Feminism, Utilitarianism, Constitutionalism. Rawlsian and Post Rawlsian Justice.

Unit-3

The principle tenets of Constitutionalism, Transformative Constitutionalism/ Constitutionalism as tools of Social Revolution, Sovereignty and essence of Constitutionalism (Austin, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau), Constitutional Convention & Constitutional Morality as tools of Constitutionalism, Constitution Interpretation (textualism, originalism and Hypothetical Intent Theory) as tools of Constitutionalism

Unit-4

Judicial Process in India

Special Dimensions of Judicial Process in Constitutional Adjudications, Indian debate on the role of judges and on the notion of judicial review, Independence of Judiciary; Constitutional Obligation of the Court: Judicial Activism and Judicial Creativity. Judicial Activism and Judicial Overreach.

Suggested Readings

1. Julius Stone, The Province and Function of Law, 2000 Universal, New Delhi



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2. Cardozo, *The Nature of Judicial Process*, 1995 Universal, New Delhi
3. Henry J. Abraham, *The Judicial Process*, 1998, Oxford.
4. J. Stone, *Precedent and the Law-Dynamics of Common Law Growth*, 1985
5. W. Friedmann, *Legal Theory*, 1960
6. Bodenheimer-*Jurisprudence-the Philosophy and Method of the Law*, 1997, Universal, New Delhi
7. J. Stone, *Legal System and Lawyers', Reasonings*, 1999 Universal, New Delhi
8. A. Lakshminath, *JUDICIAL PROCESS AND PRECEDENT*, 4th ed. 2016, Eastern Book Company, Lucknow.
9. A.T.H. Smith (ed.), *GLANVILLE WILLIAMS: LEARNING THE LAW*, 16th ed. 2016, Sweet and Maxwell, London.
10. Angelo Corlett, *RACE, RIGHTS AND JUSTICE*, 1st ed. 2009, Springer, New York.
11. C.K. Allen, *LAW AND ORDERS*, 3rd ed. 1965 3rd Ind. rep. 2009, Universal Law Publishing, Delhi.
12. J.C. Hage and D.V.D. Pfordten (eds.), *CONCEPTS IN LAW*, 1st ed. 2009, Springer, New York.
13. N.C. Sen Gupta, *EVOLUTION OF ANCIENT INDIAN LAW*, 1st ed. 1953, Probsthain & Co., London.
14. R.W.M. Dias, *JURISPRUDENCE*, 5th ed. 2013 rep. 2014, LexisNexis, Gurgaon. 12. Roger Cotterrell, *THE POLITICS OF JURISPRUDENCE*, 2nd ed. 2011, Oxford University Press, New York.



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Ph.D. Course Work Course

Name: Seminar on Contemporary Legal Issues

Course Code: LPH103

Course Credits: 2

Seminar paper in Ph.D course work provides an opportunity to the research scholar to apply all their learning in Research Methodology paper into a specialised area of law (which generally is the area identified by the scholar as their potential research area). This course would allow the scholars to work in specialised area of law including any multidisciplinary and/or inter/intra-disciplinary approach. At SRM University Sonepat, scholars have a great advantage to get connected with faculty across disciplines ranging from computer science, engineering, design, health sciences, management, and humanities along with law. Seminar paper would provide an opportunity to the scholars to take their flight of ideas, cement it with strong background and evolve alternative solutions to the legal/ social problems of the present times. Seminar paper provides opportunity to the scholars to work on an emerging legal issue with their mentor/ guide and come up with legal research worth publishing. Scholars would also be able to apply the learning from the Research Methodology and Research and Publication Ethics papers in this practical paper.

Objectives of this Paper: Scholars are expected to:

1. Demonstrate proficiency in formulating innovative ideas and preparing research problems around it.
2. Collect information around the chosen problem, link it appropriately with the theoretical framework and analyze it towards a research conclusion.
3. Present the research problem, review of existing literature, gaps, it's linkages with the relevant theory along with the analysis and the proposed design of study.
4. Defend the idea, receive and apply suggestions and formulate a research submission.



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Seminar paper must have a clear structure which essentially means that it shall have a logical flow. The paper shall be sub-divided into paragraphs, sections and subsections.

Seminar Paper shall have the following components:

1. *Title of the Seminar Paper*
2. *Abstract (300-500 words) along with keywords*
3. *Introduction*
 - a. *Rationale of the research and setting the context*
 - b. *Theoretical Framework*
4. *Review of literature (utilization of a tool for analysis is encouraged)*
5. *Statement of the problem with research questions*
6. *Research methodology/design*
7. *Findings*
8. *Conclusion and suggestions*
9. *Bibliography/references*

Format of the Paper: The full paper must be typed on A4- sheet in MS Word Document, Times New Roman, 12 font size with 1.5 line spacing. margins: 2.5 cm at the right, top and bottom and 3.0 cm at the left. - Alignment: full justification (except for headings). - Page numbers to be included in the footer.

Ideally, the length of the paper should not exceed **6000- 8000** words (excluding tables and



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references). Scholars shall follow a uniform citation style and must declare the same in research methodology.

IMPORTANT NOTE

This course is a self-paced research course and the scholars are expected to do extensive literature review and come up with their own understanding and perspective of their respective



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identified theme. Faculty mentor/supervisor would be available for discussion on major stages of the seminar paper.

Major Stages of Consultation with the Supervisor – Scholars may take as many consultations they wish to in discussion with their supervisor; however, a minimum of **eight (8)** one-to-one consultations are expected other than attending the common sessions scheduled by the supervisor.

- A. Framing of title
- B. Research questions finalization
- C. Review of literature
- D. Research design and chapterisation
- E. Draft Report
- F. Final Report

Scholars shall go through the evaluation rubrics provided herewith for understanding what is expected out of this course and accordingly plan for their grades. A special attention on the plagiarized content shall be made so as to avoid rejection of the seminar paper summarily.

Assessment Rubrics

Scholars are advised to refer to this Assessment Rubrics for organizing their work

		Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Needs improvement
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S. No.	Components	10/20 Marks	8/16 Marks	6/12 Marks	4/8 Marks	2/4 Marks
1	Identification of research area and title of seminar paper (10 Marks)	The work goes above and beyond the basic requirements, showcasing	The work meets the requirements and may include some elements of excellence, such as	The work fulfills the minimum criteria but may lack some depth, originality,	The work meets the minimum standards but may lack depth, thoroughness, or	The work does not meet the minimum standards, and there are significant shortcomings
		creativity, critical thinking, and an exceptional level of effort.	above-average effort, creativity, or a deeper understanding	or advanced elements seen in higher-rated performances	originality, and there is room for improvement in various aspects	in understanding, effort, or application of skills
2	Literature Review (20 Marks)	90% & above connected literature review. 50 & above references connected to topic.	75% & above connected literature review. 30 & above references connected to topic	50% connected literature review. 20 & above references connected to topic.	25% connected literature review. 10 & above references connected to topic.	Poor/ No/ unconnected literature review – less than 10 references



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3	Research Objective/ Hypothesis/ Problem Statement (10 Marks)	90% clear & defined RO & Hypothesis. 90% clarity on legal problem identification	75% clear & defined RO & Hypothesis. 75% clarity on legal problem identification	50% clear & defined RO & Hypothesis. 50% clarity on legal problem identification	25% clear & defined RO & Hypothesis. 25% clarity on legal problem identification	Unclear, undefined RO & Hypothesis. Vague/missing identification of legal problem
4	Research Methods/ Tools used (10 Marks)	90% & above research method/ tool(s) is followed/ described.	75% of research method/ tool(s) is followed/ described.	50% of research method/ tool(s) is followed/ described.	25% of research method/ tool(s) is followed/ described.	Scholar has not used any specific method/ tool(s) not described the method used

Internal Assessment Components 1-4 = 50 Marks

[to be assessed by the Supervisor/Course Mentor] – Passing in this component is essential to move to next stage



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5	Suggestions/ Conclusion/ Recommendation (10 Marks)	demonstrate exceptional analytical skills, original thinking, and a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter	are well-crafted, showcasing a strong understanding of the material and the ability to draw meaningful conclusions	meet the minimum standards, but there may be areas where improvement or refinement is needed for a more thorough analysis	meet the minimum criteria but may lack depth, thoroughness, or the level of analysis seen in higher-rated performances.	do not meet the minimum standards, and there are significant shortcomings in understanding, effort, or application of analytical and critical thinking skills
6	Report Writing, citation and bibliography (20 Marks)	The report is exceptionally well-written, demonstrating a high degree of attention to detail, precision, and adherence	The report is well-written, demonstrating a solid understanding of academic writing conventions, and meets or exceeds expectations for citation and	The report is well-written and meets the minimum standards for citation and bibliography, but there may be some areas where	The report meets the minimum criteria but lacks depth, thoroughness, or the level of adherence to academic standards	The report does not meet the minimum standards, and there are significant shortcomings in understanding, effort, or application of academic writing



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		to academic	bibliography	improvement or	seen in higher-	conventions,
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		standards		refinement is needed	rated performances	citation, and bibliography
7	Presentation (20 Marks)	<p>outstanding, leaving a lasting and positive impression on the audience. The student effectively communicates complex ideas with clarity and enthusiasm</p>	<p>well-executed, and the student effectively communicates the key points with confidence and competence</p>	<p>meets the basic criteria, but there may be areas where improvement or refinement is needed for a more polished delivery</p>	<p>meets the minimum standards, but there are notable areas where improvement is needed for a more effective and engaging delivery.</p>	<p>does not meet the minimum standards, and there are significant shortcomings in understanding, effort, or application of effective oral communication skills</p>
<p>Assessment Components for Evaluation by Doctoral Research Committee (DRCC) – 5-7 (50 Marks)</p>						

IMPORTANT NOTE: Seminar Papers with more than 30% similarity index (plagiarized content) shall be rejected summarily and the scholar shall FAIL in internal assessment and consequently will not be considered for evaluation by



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DRCC. Scholar has to retake the exam when it is next offered.
