

M.A./ M.Sc. TWO YEAR DEGREE PROGRAM
IV SEMESTER
Subject - Geography

Code of the Course	:	GEG9120S
Title of the Course	:	Dissertation/ Project Work
Qualification Level of the Course	:	NHEQF Level 6.5
Credit of the Course	:	04
Type of Course	:	DSE - DPR (Dissertation, Project, Report of Field Study)
Delivery Type of the Course	:	08 hours per week (@ 1 credit = 02 hours per week); 120 hours in one Semester. To be earned over at least 15 weeks from the date of commencement of the Semester. Gazetted/ national holidays and Sundays will be counted in the period of 15 weeks. Summer/ winter vacations will be excluded from the period.
Prerequisites	:	The student must have opted for courses relevant to the proposed research problem till III Semester, along with Research Methodology and Quantitative Methods in Geography.
Objectives of the Course	:	The objective of this course is to enable students to : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop understanding of research principles and methods. • Develop understanding of procedures for performing tasks relating to research and development. • Acquire knowledge about a specialized field of enquiry. • Acquire advanced cognitive and technical skills to identify and analyse problems and issues associated with a chosen field of learning. • Apply acquired knowledge and skills for carrying out applied research and meaningful investigations to formulate evidence based solutions to real world problems.

Learning Outcome	:		<p>The course is expected to inculcate the following abilities in the student as prescribed in NHEQF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursue self-directed learning to upgrade one’s knowledge and research skills. • Plan, execute and report the results of an investigation. • Identify research problems and design research proposals – define research problem, formulate appropriate and relevant research questions, formulate and test hypothesis, collect and analyse qualitative and quantitative data, interpret the evidences and make inferences from data, establish cause and effect relations. • Read texts and research papers analytically. • Assess the reliability, relevance and applications of existing studies in context of emerging developments and issues. • Acquire, analyse and synthesize data from a variety of sources, draw logical conclusions. • Employ appropriate statistical, geospatial and other analytical tools and techniques. • Present the information and results/ findings of a study in a well –structured manner. • Make judgement and take decisions regarding the adoption of approaches to real world problems, based on analysis and evaluation of information and empirical/ secondary evidences.
Course requirements	:	1.	In order to successfully complete the Dissertation/ Project Work (DPR) course prescribed in the curriculum, the student shall have to comply with the requirements laid down below.
		2.	The nature of DPR must relate to the applied/ field aspect of any of the DCC or DSE course of Geography. The selected problem may inter-disciplinary in nature. Justification for the same must be provided by the student in the application submitted for permission to the Head of the Department.
			Institutions for Dissertation
		3.	The DPR has to be compulsorily carried out at University Department or affiliated colleges of MLSU. The student may opt for a Supervisor in the Department of Geography or other

		sister Departments under the Faculty of Earth Sciences or Faculty of Social Sciences.
		Supervisor and Co-supervisor
	4.	Any internal faculty member of Geography or the sister Departments under the Faculty of Earth Sciences or the Faculty of Social Sciences approved as Ph.D. supervisor in the Department/ University can be the <i>Supervisor</i> for the Course.
	5.	Only in cases where specific laboratory facilities or field specific expertise/ specialization is required for the proposed work, the student may request, with expressed recommendation of the Supervisor, for a <i>Co-supervisor</i> - an expert of an external institute / organization of their choice.
	6.	The external expert will be called as <i>Co-supervisor</i> . A regular faculty member/ scientist of any reputed government institution/ organization in the state of Rajasthan or any other state/ Union Territory of the country may be opted for as <i>Co-supervisor</i> .
	7	DPR may also be undertaken under joint supervision of a faculty member of the Department of Geography and another Department of allied disciplines. In such cases, the faculty member of the Department of Geography shall be the <i>Supervisor</i> and the faculty member of the other Department shall be designated as the <i>Co-supervisor</i> .
	8.	In case the students undertakes DPR under supervision of a faculty member of a sister Department, joint supervision or opts for a Co-supervisor in an external institute, the work shall be undertaken under the academic and administrative control of the parent Department.
	9.	The DPR cannot be undertaken with immediate family member as Supervisor or Co-supervisor.
		Application Process for opting the Course, Supervisor and Co-supervisor
	10.	For prior approval of the DPR the student shall submit an application with details of the Supervisor in the Department at least 4-6 weeks in advance of the beginning of IV Semester. The students will proceed with the work after obtaining approval of the Head of the Department/ Principal (in case of

		<p>affiliated colleges) in this regard. A <i>Permission Letter</i> shall be issued by the concerned authority to the student. In case of denial of permission, the concerned authority shall record the reasons in writing.</p> <p>Note: (i) The application must be submitted in prescribed format provided at <i>Appendix I</i>.</p>
	11.	<p>In case the student opts for a <i>Co-supervisor</i>, an application must be submitted to the Head of the Department latest by the beginning of the Semester, i.e. one week after the completion of the theory examinations of III Semester. The following requirements are mandatory for the application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It must be duly forwarded by the Supervisor with explicit recommendation in this regard. • It must contain detailed justification for need of the proposed Co-supervisor. • A brief bio-note of the proposed Co-supervisor must be appended with the application. • It must bear the approval of the proposed Co-supervisor. <p>Co-supervisor cannot be associated with the DPR without written permission of the Head of the Department / Principal (only in case of affiliated colleges). In case of denial of request, the Head of the Department/ Principal shall record the reasons in writing.</p> <p>In case there is no Head of the Department, the Faculty Chairperson and Dean (in University constituent College) / Principal (in case of affiliated colleges) shall issue the approval.</p> <p>Incomplete applications not submitted within prescribed time-line will not be considered or processed further.</p> <p>The Department shall not bear any financial liability incurred to the student relating to the travel or any other expenses towards consultation with the Co-supervisor.</p> <p>The entire responsibility of coordination and communication with the Co-supervisor shall lie on the student and the Supervisor.</p>
		Logistics
	12.	<p>Unless expressly notified otherwise, the students will have to bear all expenses relating to the work of DPR including related field work etc. There shall be no financial liability on the</p>

		<p>Department / University.</p> <p>The student shall be entitled to use the common research (software, equipment etc.) and laboratory facilities available in the Department for the work.</p>
		<p>Conduct during Dissertation/ Project Work</p>
	13.	<p>The student will have to carry out the work under regular guidance of the Supervisor. The Supervisor will maintain an attendance record of the student which shall be submitted along with the dissertation. Attendance requirements as per University norms shall apply.</p> <p>Any action of misconduct, irregularity or irresponsibility towards assigned tasks by a student may lead to the DPR being discontinued.</p>
		<p>Documentary Requirements for Evaluation</p>
	14.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The date of issue of the time-table of IV Semester will be considered as the date of commencement of the DPR. • There are two major requirements : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Mid-semester Progress Report (ii) Final Dissertation / Project Report <p>Both reports shall be submitted in soft (*.pdf) as well as hard copy.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <i>Progress Report</i> is to be submitted in 02 copies after completion of 06 weeks from the date of commencement of the Dissertation / Project. • The progress report will be routed through the Supervisor and submitted to the Head of the Department. • It will comprise the research design of the Dissertation/ Project work along with a proposed time-line for completion of the work. <p>The research design may broadly cover the following in the given order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background • Study area • Objectives • Research questions. • Hypothesis (optional) • Review of literature and research gaps

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rationale • Methodological framework • Chapter scheme • References
		<p>On completion of the DPR the student shall submit the final <i>Dissertation / Project Report</i> to the Department in 02 copies (excluding personal and/or Supervisor's copy).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Dissertation/ Project Report is to be written in standard format relevant to the discipline. The formatting style prescribed for Ph.D thesis in the University is to be followed (<i>Appendix 2</i>). • The Dissertation / Project Report must not be less than 70 pages (including references but excluding Appendices and Lists of contents etc.). Bibliography is not mandatory. • It shall be printed on both sides of the page. • It may be written in Hindi or English. • It must be duly signed by the Supervisor (s). • The Supervisor will issue a Certificate of successful completion of the work by the student giving total number of hours worked to carry out the study, originality of the work and stating satisfactory conduct during the project period. • Plagiarism report will be compulsorily attached. The software prescribed by the University will be used for checking plagiarism. <p>The order of the components shall be as under:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. First page 2. Supervisor's Certificate 3. Plagiarism Report 4. Main Body of the Report <p>The <i>first page</i> should specify:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Programme & Semester details (ii) Course details (iii) Title of the Dissertation / Project (iv) Name & roll no./ enrolment no. of the student (v) Name and affiliation of the Supervisor

			The final report must be submitted as a single *.pdf document in soft copy and 02 hard bound copies in the Department as per the schedule prescribed by the Department.
			<p><i>Supervisor's Certificate</i> means a signed letter from the Supervisor on official letterhead, mentioning the student's name and attesting to the compliance of attendance requirement, originality and satisfactory completion of the DPR.</p> <p>Note: Prescribed format for Supervisor's Certificate has been provided at <i>Appendix 3</i>.</p>
Evaluation Scheme	:	15.	The evaluation will be for a total of 100 marks based on two components:
		1.	<p>Internal assessment (IA) (20 marks)</p> <p>(i) The Internal Assessment will be made on the basis of the <i>Progress Report</i>.</p> <p>(ii) The Supervisor shall award the internal marks out of 20 for the progress report. The evaluation shall be made on the following basis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research design of the Dissertation/ Project work along with till date progress as per proposed time-line : 15 marks • Regularity, punctuality and dedication for the work : 05 marks
		2.	<p>End of Semester evaluation (EoS) (80 marks)</p> <p>EoS evaluation will be based on the final <i>Dissertation / Project Report</i>. <i>The Viva-voce</i> shall be conducted by a three member Panel of Examiners consisting of</p> <p>(i) Head of the Department/ Principal or his nominee (for affiliated colleges)</p> <p>(ii) External Examiner</p> <p>(iii) Supervisor / Internal Examiner</p> <p>In case the Dissertation has not been undertaken under some internal faculty member as Supervisor, an Internal Examiner will be assigned for the purpose by the Head of the Department / Principal.</p> <p>The evaluation shall be done and marks will be awarded out of 80 as per the following scheme :</p>

		<p>(1) Write Up : 30 marks</p> <p>(2) Clarity and Project Output: 20 marks</p> <p>(3) Power Point Presentation : 15 marks</p> <p>(4) Viva – voce : 15 marks</p> <p>The student will make a presentation using power point slides and also defend his study in the Viva-voce before the Panel of Examiners on the day of examination.</p> <p>Marks shall be awarded by The Panel shall evaluate the Dissertation / Project Report on the same day.</p>
		<p>The deadline of submission of <i>Dissertation / Project Report</i> shall be at the completion of 15 weeks from the commencement of the Semester. The period of 15 weeks will include Sundays and gazetted holidays but will exclude extended holidays viz. Summer/ Winter vacations.</p> <p>The student may be provided an extension of 02 weeks in exceptional/ inevitable circumstances on recommendation of the Supervisor subject to the submission of relevant documents and approval of the Head of the Department.</p> <p>In case of further delay, the evaluation process for other students shall be completed. The entire responsibility of disruption and delay in evaluation for the defaulter student and consequent penalty as per University norms shall lie on the student himself. Once the evaluation of other students is completed and the defaulter student fails to submit his work, he/she shall be marked 'absent' in the IA/EoS.</p>

**FORMAT FOR APPLICATION FOR OPTING DISSERTATION / PROJECT WORK IN
M.A./ M.SC. IV SEMESTER (TWO YEAR DEGREE PROGRAM)**

**DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
Faculty of Earth Sciences
Mohanlal Sukhadia University Udaipur
DISSERTATION APPLICATION FORM
M.A./ M.Sc. IV Semester (Geography), Academic session 20____**

Personal Details

Full Name:

Student Enrollment Number:

Contact Number:

Email:

Proposed Dissertation Title:

Research Area/ Discipline (Major DCC/ DSE to which work is related to):

Brief Synopsis of Proposed Research (500 words max) (Attach as separate sheet):

(Provide a brief overview of your proposed research topic, objectives, methodology, and expected outcome)

Tentative Timeline:

Supervisor Details:

Name:

Designation:

Department:

Whether a registered Ph.D. Supervisor with Mohanlal Sukhadia University Udaipur (yes/ no):

Do you require any special resources or facilities for your research? If yes, please specify:

Forwarded by proposed Supervisor

Sign with seal

Date:

PERMISSION LETTER

To whomsoever it may concern

This letter is to certify that Mr./Ms. _____ student of
Department of Geography at _____
College/ University has been **GRANTED/ NOT GRANTED** permission to undertake a
Dissertation/ Project work titled _____
_____ under the
supervision of _____ at Department of _____
at _____ College/University.

Reason for denial of permission (if applicable)

Date:

HEAD
Department of Geography
Mohanlal Sukhadia University

FORMATTING STYLE FOR DISSERTATION/ PROJECT REPORT

The DPR report can be written either in English or Hindi (written in Devnagari script).

1. Candidates submitting the DPR report is required to follow the following aspects regarding paper size, text layout etc., except in special cases in which Head of the Department is satisfied that it will not be possible to comply with the requirements of these rules:
 - a. Size of the paper should be A4/ quarter, 210mm x 295mm (8.5" x 11.5") except for maps, drawing, graphs on which no restriction is placed.
 - b. The text should be typed on both sides of the paper leaving a margin of 4 cm on left hand side and 3 cm on right hand side as well as 3 cm at the top and 3 cm at the bottom.
 - c. The text should be typed in 1.5 line spacing using normal typeface / electronic typing/ PC word processing in 12 font size of Arial/ Times New Roman. Fancy fonts should be avoided for text writing. For scripts other than Roman (Devnagri, etc.) comparable font size should be used.
 - d. The Dissertation / Project Report must not be less than 70 pages (including references but excluding Appendices and Lists of contents etc.). Bibliography is not mandatory.

2. Likewise, cover layout should also be specified. Affiliation of the supervisor could be added but it should not contain administrative designation like Head of the Department/ Dean, etc.

**FORMAT OF SUPERVISOR'S CERTIFICATE TO BE ISSUED FOR
DISSERTATION/ PROJECT WORK**

Certificate to be issued on the official letterhead

SUPERVISOR'S CERTIFICATE

I feel great pleasure in certifying that the Dissertation/ Project Report (DPR) entitled

by Mr./ Ms. _____ has been completed under my
guidance.

He/ She has completed the following requirements as per prescribed guidelines to
my satisfaction:

- (a) Timely submission of Mid-semester Progress Reports.
- (b) Final Dissertation/ Project Report
- (c) No. of working days (*attach attendance record if available*)
- (d) No. of average hours per day

I recommend the submission of the Dissertation/ Project Report.

Date:

Signature with seal
Name of the Supervisor