

SARVAJANIK UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF LAW

Ph.D. Coursework – Paper 3

Ph.D		Semester	2	Teaching Scheme				Evaluation Scheme	
Subject Name	Paper III – Ph.D. Law Course Work			L	T	P	Credits	CCE	SEE
Subject Code	Code will be provided by SU			4	-	-	4	50	50
Type of Course	Theory			CCE: Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation SEE: Semester End Evaluation					
Prerequisite	LL.M. or equivalent Post-Graduate degree in Law								
Rationale	This course equips Ph.D. scholars in Law with foundational and advanced research competencies, an understanding of research ethics and interdisciplinary methods, practical tools for legal research and an awareness of contemporary legal developments including human rights, information technology law, IPR and alternative dispute resolution.								

Course Outcomes (COs): At the end of the course, students will be able to		
CO	Outcome	Marks % Weightage
CO-1	Identify and articulate the objectives, significance and current status of legal research in India and apply interdisciplinary approaches to research problems.	20%
CO-2	Demonstrate awareness of research ethics including plagiarism, authorship, copyright, data integrity and peer review norms in academic writing.	20%
CO-3	Design and execute a research programme by selecting appropriate research methodology, research design and statistical/analytical tools relevant to legal inquiry.	20%
CO-4	Utilise computer applications, online legal databases and technology-based research tools effectively for legal research.	20%
CO-5	Critically engage with emerging areas of law including human rights, sustainable development, ADR, IT/AI/cyber law and IPR.	20%

Course Contents				
Unit	Unit Title	Content	Tentative Teaching Hours	Unit Weightage
1	Basics of Legal Research	- Basics of Research and Criteria of a Good Research - Objective of Legal Research - Need for Legal Research - Importance of Inter-disciplinary Approach - Significance of Legal Research in India - Status of Legal Research in Contemporary India	10	20%
2	Research Ethics, Literature Review & Research Design	- Research Ethics: Authorship and Copyright; Plagiarism; Data Fabrication; Peer Review - Literature Review: Concept, Purpose, and Methodology - Research Design: Meaning, Concept, Need, Features, Importance, Kinds - Errors in Research Design; Types of Research Errors - Preparation of a Research Programme: Contents - Basic Principles of Experimental Research Design	10	20%
3	Tools, Techniques & Research Writing	- Tools and Techniques of Legal Research - Research Writing and Steps in Research Writing - Report Writing: Meaning and Importance; Rules and Techniques - Precaution in Interpretation; Research Reports - Steps in Writing Reports: Style Manuals and Plagiarism	10	20%
4	Computer Applications in Legal Research	- Computer and Its Role in Legal Research - Computer System Characteristics and Computers and Researchers - Research in Law and Technology: Approaches - Introduction to UGC INFONET, INFLIBNET and ERNET	8	15%
5	Fundamental Perspectives & Emerging Trends in Law	- Fundamental Perspectives in Law: Modern Theories of Justice - Human Rights: Concept and Contemporary Developments - Sustainable Development: Legal Framework and Principles - Alternate Dispute Resolution: National and International Scenario	10	25%

		- Information Technology, Artificial Intelligence and Cyber-Security Law - Intellectual Property Rights: Emerging Issues		
Total			48	100%

Suggested Specification Table with Marks (% Distribution)						
% Distribution of Marks	R Level	U Level	A Level	N Level	E Level	C Level
Distribution	10%	20%	20%	20%	15%	15%
Legends: R: Remembrance, U: Understanding, A: Application, N: Analyze, E: Evaluate, C: Create and above Levels (Revised Bloom's Taxonomy)						

Recommended Reference Books	
1	S.N. Jain, Socio-Legal Research in India: Retrospect and Prospect (ILI Publication, 1972)
2	S.K. Agrawal (ed.), Legal Education in India: Problems and Perspectives (Tripathi, 1973)
3	M.O. Price, H. Bitner & S. Bysiewicz, Effective Legal Research (4th ed., Little Brown, 1979)
4	C.M. Campbell & P. Wiles, Law and Society (Robertson, 1979)
5	P.M. Bakshi, Introduction to Statute Law (Ashoka, 1982)
6	Upendra Baxi, Towards a Sociology of Indian Law (Satvahan, 1986)
7	Nomita Aggarwal, Jurisprudence: Legal Theory (Central Law Publications, 2021)
8	P. Ishwara Bhat, Idea and Methods of Legal Research (OUP, 2nd ed., 2020)
9	UGC Guidelines on Research Ethics and Anti-Plagiarism Policy (2018)
10	INFLIBNET User Manual and UGC INFONET Documentation (Current Ed.)

List of Open Source / Learning Websites / Other Details
- INFLIBNET N-LIST Programme: https://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in - SCC Online (Supreme Court Cases): https://www.scconline.com - Manupatra: https://www.manupatra.com - Indian Kanoon (Open Source): https://indiankanoon.org - JSTOR (Open Access): https://www.jstor.org - SSRN Legal Research Network: https://www.ssrn.com/en/index.cfm/law/ - Shodhganga (Indian Theses Repository): https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in - ERNET India: https://www.ernet.in

SARVAJANIK UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF LAW Ph.D. Coursework – Paper 4: Seminar

Ph.D	Semester	2	Teaching Scheme				Evaluation Scheme	
Subject Name	Paper IV - Ph.D. Law Course Work		L	T	P	Credits	CCE	SEE
Subject Code	Code will be provided by SU		2	-	-	2	25	25
Type of Course	Seminar / Presentation-based		CCE : Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation SEE : Semester End Evaluation					
Prerequisite	Successful completion of Ph.D. Coursework Paper 3 (Legal Research Methodology); Enrolment as a registered Ph.D. Scholar in Law at Sarvajani University							
Rationale	The Seminar paper is designed to bridge theoretical legal knowledge and independent scholarly inquiry. It provides Ph.D. scholars with a structured platform to demonstrate their ability to identify a research problem within their specialised field, conduct a focused literature review, apply appropriate research methodology and present their findings in an academic forum. The seminar cultivates oral and written communication skills, critical thinking, and peer engagement—competencies essential for doctoral-level scholarship in law.							

Course Outcomes (COs): At the end of the course, students will be able to		
CO	Outcome Description	Marks % Weightage
CO-1	Select and define a research problem within the scholar's specialised area of law and articulate a clear research question and hypothesis.	20%
CO-2	Conduct a systematic and critical review of existing literature pertinent to the identified research problem using primary and secondary legal sources.	20%
CO-3	Apply appropriate research methodology, design and tools to the chosen topic and prepare a well-structured seminar report.	20%
CO-4	Present research findings effectively in an academic seminar setting, respond to questions from peers and experts and demonstrate scholarly discourse.	20%
CO-5	Demonstrate adherence to research ethics including proper citation, avoidance of plagiarism and accurate attribution of sources in the seminar report.	20%

Seminar Outcomes	
Sr. No.	Seminar Outcome
1	Demonstrate the ability to identify a relevant and original research problem within the scholar's field of legal specialisation.
2	Conduct a comprehensive and methodologically review of relevant legal literature, case law, statutes and academic commentary.
3	Prepare and submit a structured seminar report conforming to the prescribed academic writing standards, including correct citation format (OSCOLA / Bluebook / APA as applicable).
4	Deliver a well-organised oral presentation of the research work before a panel and peer audience, demonstrating clarity and depth of knowledge.
5	Respond to queries and engage in academic discussion demonstrating critical understanding of the topic, competing perspectives and implications for law and policy.

Seminar Guidelines	
Topic Assignment	- Each Ph.D. scholar in Law shall be assigned one seminar topic related to their specialised field of research by their concerned Ph.D. Supervisor. - The topic shall be directly connected to the scholar's proposed or approved research area and shall have relevance to contemporary legal discourse. - Topic assignment shall be communicated in writing at the commencement of Semester 2, allowing adequate preparation time.
Scope of Work	- The scholar shall undertake a critical review of literature, identify a research gap and present a focused analysis of the assigned topic. - The work may include doctrinal analysis, empirical observations, comparative legal study or policy analysis, as appropriate to the topic.
Report Submission	- The scholar shall submit a Seminar Report to their Ph.D. Supervisor. - The report must include: (i) Introduction and Statement of Problem; (ii) Review of Literature; (iii) Research Objectives and Methodology; (iv) Analysis and Discussion; (v) Findings and Suggestions; (vi) Conclusion; (vii) Bibliography/References. - Submission must be in hard copy (two copies) and soft copy duly signed by the scholar and countersigned by the Supervisor. - The report must pass the university-mandated plagiarism check with a similarity index not exceeding 10% (excluding references and quotations).
Viva Voce	- Each scholar shall undergo a Viva Voce examination following the seminar presentation. - The scholar shall be required to defend the findings and methodology of the seminar report during the Viva Voce.

Recommended References	
1	S.N. Jain, Socio-Legal Research in India: Retrospect and Prospect (ILI Publication, New Delhi, 1972)
2	P. Ishwara Bhat, Idea and Methods of Legal Research (Oxford University Press, 2nd ed., 2020)
3	Nomita Aggarwal, Jurisprudence: Legal Theory (Central Law Publications, 2021)
4	Upendra Baxi, Towards a Sociology of Indian Law (Satvahan Publications, 1986)
5	UGC Guidelines on Research Ethics and Anti-Plagiarism Policy (University Grants Commission, 2018)
6	Oxford Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA), 4th ed. (University of Oxford, 2012)
7	The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation (Harvard Law Review Association, 21st ed., 2020)
8	INFLIBNET N-LIST and UGC INFONET Programme Documentation (INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, Current Ed.)