

Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
DSE-4 Research Methods in Geoscience (L3, P1)	4	3	0	1	12 th pass with science	Studied Earth System Science and Structural Geology, Hydrogeology or Equivalent

Learning Objectives

Main objective of this course to provide an introduction to research methods relevant to geoscience through lectures and practical training about literature review, proper referencing and citation, professional ethics, geoscience hypotheses, analytical techniques, data analysis, preparation of scientific reports and proposals.

Learning outcomes

After successful completion of this course, students will have a basic understanding and skill to develop a research plan related to critical issues in geoscience. The students will also be able to develop skills to synthesise scientific ideas and appreciate the scope of research work in geoscience.

SYLLABUS OF DSE-4 Theory (45 Hours)

UNIT – I (9 Hours)

Detailed Content

Fundamentals of research in geoscience: Concept and definitions of research issues in geoscience, types of research in geosciences, testing of hypothesis in geosciences, literature survey of scientific articles relevant to geoscience, critical gaps and key questions to resolve through scientific research in geoscience.

UNIT –II (9 Hours)

Detailed Content

Planning and development of research work: Defining major objective and sub-objectives of geological research in a particular field. Assessment of required methodologies and experimental setups. Types of field and laboratory data, time period and key milestones of the progress, synthesis of acquired data and writing of thesis.

UNIT –III (9 Hours)

Detailed Content

Analytical techniques: Geological fieldwork and collections of representative samples, sample preparation, petrographic techniques, mineralogical and geochemical analytical techniques.

UNIT –IV (9 Hours)

Detailed Content

Data handling and statistical treatments: Basic statistical methods, correlation and regression, principal component analysis, factor analysis, cluster analysis, making of different geological maps and figures using software's.

UNIT –V (9 Hours)**Detailed Content**

Writing of thesis and scientific reports: Review of concerned geoscience research articles. Introduction, significance and utility of the concerned geoscience research. Easy to follow stepwise chapters on different aspects of the research work. Synthesis and interpretations, conclusions, referencing, bibliographies, ethics and plagiarism.

Practical: 30 hours

Students will be exposed to basic instrumentation facilities and their working, such as thin section preparation, petrographic analysis, mineralogical and geochemical analytical techniques and writing of project reports.

Essential readings

Lisle, R.J., Brabham, P., Branes, J. 2011. Basic Geological mapping, Wiley
Wilson M. J. 1987. A handbook of determinative methods in clay mineralogy. Blackie

Recommended readings

Lindholm, R.C. 1963. A practical approach to Sedimentology, Allen & Unwin
Faure, G. and Mensing, T.M. 2009. Isotopes principles and Applications. Willey.

Jackson M. (1975) Soil Chemical Analysis–Advanced Course: 10th printing, published by author, Dept. Soil Science, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.