

CBN COLLABORATIVE POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS, UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA NSUKKA
RESEARCH METHODS
MODULE SPECIFICATION

1. **Module Title:** RESEARCH METHODS

2. **Module Code:** ECO 591

3. **Number of credits:** 3

4. **Level:** MSc

5. **Semester:** 1st

6. **Pre-requisites for admission to the module (if any)**

The pre-requisite is that the student has a satisfactory knowledge of intermediate research methodology, intermediate microeconomics, intermediate macroeconomics and quantitative techniques.

7. **Module Coordinator**

Prof. E.O. Ogunkola

8. **Aims**

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to:

- 1.1 Understand the fundamentals of qualitative and quantitative research methods.
- 1.2 Act as an educated consumer of data by accurately collecting analyzing and reporting data so as to present complex data and situations clearly
- 1.3 Locate, analyze and synthesis information about different research approaches
- 1.4 Acquire skills on Grant writing, data gathering and dissemination.
- 1.5 Apply appropriate advanced ICT tools for data gathering, analysis and presentation of results.
- 1.6 Review, Appropriately interpret results and draw inferences from analysis
- 1.7 Develop skills necessary to write detailed research proposal and grants.

9. **Summary of Content**

The course explains how to conduct basic research in economics. It covers the main steps involved in the research process: development of the research proposal, finding and critically evaluating relevant literature, model development, methods for locating and collecting economic data, analytical methods, and writing mechanics. The course further introduces the students to practical day-to-day skills needed to be a research economist and provides an opportunity for them to demonstrate their ability to undertake independent research work. By providing an ideal forum for interactive learning that requires high level of student participation, the course has a strong practical focus. Students develop the skills to recognize and reflect on the strengths and limitations of different research methodologies, understand the

links between theory and practice, critically assess research, and address ethical and practical issues. The purpose of this course is also to teach basic research skills and concepts needed to plan, conduct, and analyze data from a research project. Skills including performing literature searches, questionnaire development, scale construction, data cleaning and management, data manipulation and analysis, and interpretation and report writing will be taught. Students will use survey and statistical software throughout the course, and the lab will specifically focus on hands-on activities. The final project will involve proposing a research question, finding and analyzing data to evaluate this question, and writing a report. The course covers the main areas of: (1) Introduction to Research Methods, (2) Theory in Research Design and Ethics, (3) Measurement and Data Collection, (4) Quantitative Qualitative and Mixed Research, (5) Descriptive and Inferential Statistics, (6) Analysis Method in Impact Evaluation (7) Presentation and Inferential Statistics (8) Elements of Project Analysis (9) Grant Writing and (10) Research Writing.

10. Module Intended Learning Outcomes (MILOs)

Upon successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

No.	Milos	Weighting (%)
1	Explain the concept of Qualitative and quantitative research methods	Refer to no.15
2	Develop a hypothesis, research problem and related questions	
3	Frame the problem with the correct research methodology	
4	Collect data that accurately addresses the research problem	
5	Make use of data to make accurate decisions and present complex data or situations clearly	
6	Review, analyze and interpret research findings appropriately	
7	Prepare a preliminary research proposal on any topic of interest	
8	Conduct a comprehensive literature review	
9	Understand the elements of project analysis	
10	Analyze using different methods in Impact Evaluation	

11. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

MILO No.	TLAs	Functions	Hours/Week
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9	Lectures and materials	Course instructors will introduce, with appropriate audio-visual materials, the critical concepts of Production and Operation Management through lectures.	3hours
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,	Tutorials (Case study, Group Discussion, Quizzes,	Tutorial sessions in the course will consist of structured tasks that apply	

	presentations, peer review, role play)	concepts covered in lecture and provide hands-on experience with software. The majority of the lab sessions focus on STATA, a statistical software package for data analysis. Also, other learning activities such as case studies, group discussion, presentations, peer review, quizzes and role play. Emphasis placed on more in-depth learning of the processes, tools, and techniques in Research Methods	3 hours
--	--	--	----------------

12. Assessments Tasks/Activities

MILO No.	Type of assessment tasks/activities	Weighting (if applicable)	Remarks
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9	Examination Students are required to participate in a three-hour examination to test their acquisitions of concepts and knowledge.	70%	Each course shall normally be completed and examined at the end of the semester in which it is offered.
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9	Continuous Assessment Assessment is comprising essays, tests, term papers, tutorial exercises, quizzes and take-home assessment.	30%	Each course assessment will be conducted in the course of the semester in which it is offered.
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9	Practical Sessions Assessment is comprising group work assignment and individual assignment.	N/A	The use of statistical packages in Financial Economics,

13. Attendance Requirements

Students are required to attend a minimum of 75% of the total period of formal instructions after five (5) weeks.

14. Contribution to Programme Learning Outcomes

No	PILOs	MILO No
1	develop in the students a thorough knowledge and applied competence in the fundamentals of Economics.	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10
2	develop in the students an ability to critically appraise alternative systems of Economics.	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,

3	equip students with economic theories that will lead to expertise in Economics	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,
4	provide training to qualified graduates of economics and to other individuals whose prior training or experience has made them capable of playing a leadership role in the economics profession	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,
5	equip students with the ability to analyze and undertake course of action to improve organisational performance using financial, operational and strategic perspectives and frameworks learned in the coursework and experience	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10
6	prepare students for managerial positions in the industries, as well as other related organizations	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,
7	prepare participants for positions as consultants, advocates, analysts, or directly as policy makers in the public and private sector	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,
8	Inculcate the requisite intellectual/conceptual foundations that will permit meaningful participation in the discussion or resolution of the problems which confront the Economics discipline in the contemporary word;	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,
9	encourage research into problems which impede the maximum contribution of Economics to national development and well-being of the people	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,
10	develop skill in logical reasoning and critical analysis and improve the capacity students in formulating sound economic policies and strategies	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10

15. Grading of Student Achievement

Letter Grade	% Mark	Grade Definitions	Remarks
A	70-100	Excellent	Demonstrate excellent understanding of the subject matters.
B	60-69	Good	Demonstrate a good understanding of the subject matters, though missing some of the points.
C	50-59	Adequate	Demonstrate an adequate understanding of the core of the subject matters.
F	<50%	Fail	Demonstrate a wrong understanding of the subject matter.

16. Resources

Suggested primary texts

SN	Name of Author(s)	Year of Publication	Title of Book	Edition	Publisher's Name	ISBN
1	Creswell, J	2013	Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches	Fourth Edition	SAGE Publications, Inc	978-1-452-22610-5
2	Jackson. S. L	2012	Research Methods and Statistics	Fourth Edition	Wadsworth Cengage Learning	978-1111346553
3	Kumar, R	2014	Research Methodology	Fourth edition	SAGE Publications	9781446269978
4	Robert Ho	2006	Handbook of Univariate and Multivariate Data Analysis and Interpretation with SPSS	First Edition	Chapman & Hall/CRC Taylor & Francis Group	978-1-58488-602-0

Suggested secondary texts

No	Name of Author(s)	Year of Publication	Title of Book	Edition	Publisher's Name	ISBN
1	William, S and White, E.B	2000	The Elements of Style	Fourth Edition	Longman, NY	9780205313426
2	McClosekry, D.N	2000	Economical Writing	Second Edition	Waveland Press Inc.	9781-577-66063-7
3	Salazar, Crosby and DiClemente	2006	Research Methods in Health Promotion	Second Edition	Waveland Press Inc.	978-1577660637
4	Vinayak Bairagi, Mousami V. Munot	2019	Research Methodology : A Practical and Scientific Approach	First Edition	Chapman and Hall/CRC	9780815385615

Suggested Journals

Survey Research Journals

Journal of Research Methodology

International Journal of Research Methodology

International Journal of Social Research methodology

International Journal of Science and Research Methodology

Research Synthesis Journals
International Journal of Qualitative Methods
Management Research Journal
International Journal of Social Research Methodology
International Journal of Quantitative and Qualitative Research
CBN Journal of Applied Statistics

Facilities Requirements

A lecture room with appropriate teaching and lab (if any) facilities

