Dr Dhishna P
Associate Professor
School of Humanities, Social Sciences & Management
National Institute of Technology Karnakataka

Research Methodology

Primary Research

- Primary Research first hand investigation
- Literary Text, Historical Text, Film or art performance
- Survey or interview
- Lab experiment
- Statistical data, historical documents and work of literature or art

Secondary Research

- Other studies made on the subject of research
- Articles and books
- Scientific debates
- Literary works

How research works

- Discovering, assessing and assimilating other research
- articulating your own ideas clearly and persuasively

Research paper as a form of communication

- Present information and ideas clearly and effectively
- Mechanics of gathering source materials, taking notes and documenting sources
- Documentation should only support your statements and provide concise information about the sources cited

Selecting a topic

- Freedom of choice
- Finding an appropriate focus

  Time management

  Consult library materials and other print and electronic resources

  Narrowing down the focus: understand the amount and depth of research required

  length of paper expected while writing

  Importance of reading

Conducting Research

- The Modern academic library
- Electronic Sources- full text databases-central information system
- Book and similar publications
- Articles and other publications
- Additional resources like video recordings

Reference Works

- Print: Books
- Electronic-electronic databases
- Collection of abstracts
- Research guides
- Dictionaries
- Encyclopedias
- Year books
- Almanacs-statistical data
- Atlases
- Gazetteers

Searching a Reference Database

- Electronic
- Print
- Types of Searches:

  Author Search

  Title Search

  Subject Search

How to conduct search online

- Expanded Search eg: detective fiction could be as American detective fiction
- Truncation forms eg word root followed by asterisk* or $ depending on interface
- Boolean Search using logic and, or, and not Arthur Conan Doyle or Sherlock Holmes

  Othello and not Shakespeare

Full text databases

- Early English Books online
- EBSCO bibliographic databases
- Project Muse

Compiling a working bibliography

- Keeping track of sources
- Creating a computer file for the working bibliography
- Recording essential publication information
- Noting other useful information
- Verifying publication information
- Converting the working bibliography to work cited

- Thank you