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| **Name of the Programme** | **Masters in Social Work** |
| **Semester** | **II** |
| **Course Code** | **MSW-204** |
| **Course Title** | **Qualitative Research in Social Work** |
| **Credits** | **3** |
| **Marks** | **100** |

**Course Description/Rationale:**

Social work research is considered both as a method of practice and a process of inquiry helping in practice and supplementing knowledge to the discipline. Therefore, basic research competency is essential for a student of social work. The course deals with the philosophy of inquiry, ethical issues and dilemmas and the process of undertaking qualitative research. The paper prepares the student to develop skills and competencies in choosing qualitative research as a mode of inquiry by making them acquainted with the process and nature of the same. The paper will also help in making the students to learn the basics of coding in qualitative research.

**Course Objectives:**

* To understand the nature and process of qualitative research and its significance in Social Work
* To learn the methods, tools, skills and techniques of doing Qualitative Research Study
* To develop competence in conceptualizing, designing and implementing research using qualitative paradigms and techniques.

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

* Develop theoretical perspectives on the philosophy and different paradigms of qualitative inquiry.
* Can identify the significance of qualitative research in social work.
* Have the requisite skills and competencies to analyse, interpret and present qualitative data.

**Course Content**

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| **Unit** | **Name of the unit** | **Contents** | **L** | **T** | **P** | **Marks** |
| **1** | **Introduction to Qualitative Research** | * Meaning, nature, scope and philosophy of Qualitative Research * Conceptualizing qualitative studies by understanding the focus, area and lines of enquiry * Designing Qualitative Research * Etic and Emic Perspectives | 12 | 06 | - | 20 |
| **2** | **Data Collection and Coding in Qualitative research** | * + Theoretical Sampling and Saturation   + Key Informants: Identification, selection and trapping information.   + Methods of data collection: Participant observation, life histories, in-depth/unstructured interviews, group interviews and focus group discussions, and community based participatory methods and techniques.   + Coding in Qualitative research. | 13 | 05 | - | 20 |
| **3** | **Preparing/Writing Qualitative Studies** | * Organisation of research report * Editing the report * Self-reflectivity in Research | 12 | 04 | - | 20 |
| **TOTAL CONTACT HOURS** | | | 52 | | | 60 |

* Note: End Semester Exam 60 Marks, In Semester 40 Marks (20 in Semester, 5 Presentation, 5 Assignment, 5 Classroom Participation and 5 Attendance)

**Suggested Readings:**

* Agar, M.H. 1986. Speaking Ethnography. California: Sage Publications.
* Barbour. Introducing Qualitative Research. California: Sage Publications.
* Denzin, N.K. 1989. Interpretive Interactions. California: Sage Publications
* Gubrium, Jaber. 1998. Analyzing Field Reality. California: Sage Publications.
* Jogernsen, D.L. 1989. Participant Observations: A Methodology of Human Studies. California: Sage Publications.
* Padgett, D.L. 1998. Qualitative Methods in Social Work Research. California: Sage Publications.
* Reissman, C.K. 1994. Qualitative Studies in Social Work Research. California: Sage Publications.
* Silverman, D. 1993. Interpreting Qualitative Data. London: Sage Publications.