



Ten-Days Research Methodology Course for
Ph.D./PDF Research Scholars in
Social Sciences

(February 02 to 12, 2026)



Sponsored by

Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi

Organised by

Centre for West Asian Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

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Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

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Research Methodology Course (RMC)
On
Decolonising International Relations: Indian Methodologies and Perspectives
on West Asia, North Africa and Central Asia

About the Course:

This course aims to prepare a new generation of researchers who understand that the global order is increasingly being formulated in terms of countries and perspectives outside of the traditional West. In the wake of India's emergence as a thought leader in the Global South, its historical linkages and strategic depth in West Asia, Central Asia and North Africa, and its growing influence on global norms, it is essential to examine IR through the uniquely Indian lens.

About the University

Jamia Millia Islamia, a Public Central University; established in 1920, originally at Aligarh in United Provinces which in 1925 initially moved to Karol Bagh, Delhi and later built up in Jamia Nagar. In 1988, it became the Central University by an Act of Parliament and since then it is expanding in different directions achieving the new dimensions.

The mission of the founding fathers of this great institution should not only serve as a beacon light for all the stakeholders but should also inspire all in making this university as one of the premier institutions of higher learning in the world. It should attain distinction in providing cutting edge learning experience, internationally benchmarked education, intellectual freedom and critical research opportunities in frontier areas of contemporary concern.

Today, Jamia Millia Islamia is accredited A++ grade Central University by NAAC during the 2nd cycle in December 2021. The university is an ensemble of a multi-layered educational system which covers all aspects of schooling, under-graduate and post-graduate education.

About the Centre for West Asian Studies

The Centre for West Asian Studies was established in July 2004 and formally inaugurated by Dr. Manmohan Singh, the Prime Minister of India, on 29 January 2005. It is part of the institution founded under a programme of the research and development initiated by the Jamia Millia Islamia, a university steeped in secular values and ideas. The scope of the studies includes all the countries of West Asia including Turkey. India has always had multifaceted relations with peoples of the region.

The Centre seeks to foster interdisciplinary academic pursuit of the West Asia and promote research on the region's politics, economics, culture and its relations with India as well as its interconnections to a larger global milieu. It aims to provide a forum for informed exchange of ideas among students, faculty, and scholars from outside, and serve as a niche for public policy studies. It equally aims to generate and provide resources through which the interested and expert alike, can understand a region which has close and historic cultural, economic and religious links with India. It also seeks to promote an Indian perspective on developments in the region, especially those which equally impinge on global peace, security and development.

The Centre admits students in P.G. and Ph.D programmes for two and five years, respectively. The educational objective of the Centre is to impart specialist knowledge of the region to its students, in order to enable them to pursue careers in research and teaching, journalism, business, government and non-governmental organisations, and others. As West Asia becomes an increasingly important region for India and the wider world, the Centre is expected to excel with newer research and taught courses. It remains committed to deepening knowledge of the region through rigorous teaching, innovative research, and essential language-learning modules.

Objective of the course

The proposed course aims to empower research scholars by providing comprehensive training in the theoretical, philosophical, and practical aspects of research across various disciplines. It seeks to equip participants with the necessary skills to identify research problems, formulate hypotheses, and design methodologically sound research proposals. The course will offer hands-on experience in both qualitative and quantitative data collection methods, using appropriate tools and techniques for data analysis. Additionally, it will focus on enhancing academic writing skills for preparing research proposals and scholarly papers suitable for publication in high-impact journals. A critical component of the course is to deepen the participants' understanding of research ethics, with particular emphasis on reference management and plagiarism detection.

Course Structure and Content

The ten-day Research Methodology Course will be conducted through a structured blend of lectures, interactive sessions, and hands-on training to provide a comprehensive learning experience. It will begin with the fundamentals of research, including its objectives, types, approaches, and methods for identifying and formulating research problems. Participants will learn the essentials of research design, such as topic selection, literature review, and proposal writing. Emphasis will be given to both qualitative and quantitative research methods, including interviews, surveys, sampling, and fieldwork. The course will also cover data analysis using tools like Tableau and R for various statistical techniques. Sessions on academic writing will help participants craft research papers, reports, and proposals while focusing on ethical writing and publication strategies. The course will further introduce essential research tools such as plagiarism detection software (Ouriginal, Turnitin) and reference managers (EndNote, Mendeley, Zotero) to promote ethical and organized research practices.

Major themes to be Covered:

Decolonizing International Relations: A Theoretical Overview

- Critique of Euro-American dominance in IR theory
- Global South perspectives in IR

Indian Strategic Thought and Political Philosophy

- Kautilya and the Arthashastra
- The Mandala Theory of statecraft
- Thinkers such as K. M. Panikkar and K. Subrahmanyam

India and the Global South

- Anti-colonial solidarity and the Non-Aligned Movement
- India's leadership in the G20 and inclusion of the African Union
- South-South cooperation and development diplomacy

India's Regional and Strategic Engagements

- Foreign policy toward West Asia, Central Asia, and North Africa
- Energy security, trade, and diaspora diplomacy
- Maritime strategy and Indian Ocean geopolitics

Methodological Training from an Indian Lens

- Indigenous texts and archival research in IR
- Comparative civilizational analysis
- Fieldwork, discourse analysis, and policy research with Indian frameworks

Contemporary Issues and Case Studies

- India's role in international organisations (UN, G20, SCO, BRICS)
- Strategic partnerships (I2U2, IMEC)
- Disarmament, cybersecurity, and climate diplomacy

Learning Outcomes and Expected Impact

Upon completing the course, participants will be able to design and execute scientifically robust research projects, demonstrating proficiency in both qualitative and quantitative data analysis techniques. They will understand and apply ethical principles throughout the research process, including proper reference management and plagiarism avoidance. Additionally, they will acquire advanced academic writing skills for drafting high-quality manuscripts and research proposals, and will gain confidence in utilizing technological tools for data management, plagiarism detection, and reference organization, thereby significantly enhancing their overall research competence and professional impact.

Course Mode: Offline only

Venue: Centre for West Asian Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

Course Timings: 10:00 A.M – 03:30 P.M

(Total 30 Sessions including Field Trip).

Eligibility Criteria: Research Scholar currently pursuing Ph.D./Post-Doctoral Fellowship (PDF) programs in Social Sciences at universities or recognized research institutions are eligible to apply.

Registration Fee: No registration fee

Number of Seats: Number of seats is limited to 30 (10 from outstation, 10 from within the state, and 10 from within the campus) only.

How to apply:

- Interested candidates must apply via the Google Form

<https://forms.gle/yW4DeUPWjLrgAWDP7>

Selected candidates must email the duly filled registration form signed by both the Supervisor and the Head of the Department or Institute, with the official seal affixed to **ascseminar@gmail.com**. A copy of the candidate's recent bio-data must also be submitted along with the registration form.

- The completed application must be submitted on or **before 23rd January 2026**.
- Incomplete or unsigned applications will be rejected. (The registration form will be provided after selection of the participation.)

The selected candidates will be informed via email and are required to bring the original hard copies of the following documents and submit them on the first day of the course.

- The duly filled and signed registration form with official seals from both the Supervisor and Head of Department/Institute.

- Proof of current academic status such as Ph.D., PDF registration letter, identity card, or other relevant documents

Accommodation and Travel Allowance:

- Accommodation will be provided on a sharing basis only for outstation participants in the University Guest House.
- Food and refreshments will be served to all participants during the course.
- Travelling Allowance will be paid to selected outstation participants as per the University norms, limited to second-class/sleeper class train fare or the shortest route by bus from their institution.
- The participant has to submit their original travel tickets to claim the travelling allowance.

Note -Participant selection will be made according to ICSSR guidelines.

- No leave will be permitted during the course duration.

Important dates:

Last date for the receipt of application form-----23rd January 2026

Acceptance of participation to be communicated-----25th January 2026

Course Director

Prof. Anisur Rahman

Center For West Asian Studies
Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

Co-Course Director

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Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

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