Research Methodology

**Introduction to Research:** Meaning of Research, Objectives of Research, Types of Research, Research Approaches, Significance of Research, Research Process, Criteria of Good Research, Problems Encountered by Researchers in India.

**Defining the Research Problem:** What is a Research Problem?, Selecting the Problem, Necessity of Defining the Problem, Techniques Involved in Defining a Problem


**Sampling design and Procedures:** Sample or Census, The Sampling Design Process, A Classification of Sampling Techniques, Choosing Nonprobability Versus Probability Sampling, Uses of Nonprobability Versus Probability Sampling.

**Measurement and Scaling:** Non-comparative Scaling Techniques, Continuous Rating Scale, Itemized Rating Scale, Non-comparative Itemized Rating Scale Decisions, Multi-item Scales, Scale Evaluation, Choosing a Scaling Technique.

**Methods of Data Collection:** Collection of Primary Data, Observation Method, Interview Method, Collection of Data through Questionnaires, Collection of Data through Schedules, Some Other Methods of Data Collection, Collection of Secondary Data, Selection of Appropriate Method for Data Collection.

**Questionnaire & form design:** questionnaire & observation forms, questionnaire design process.

**Data analysis:** tests of significance based on t, f and z distribution chi-square test; cross tabulation

**Multiple Regression:** Overview of Multiple Regression, Statistics Associated with Multiple Regression, Conducting Multiple Regression, Stepwise Regression, Multicollinearity

**Discriminant Analysis:** Discriminant Analysis Model, Statistics Associated with Discriminant Analysis, Conducting Discriminant Analysis

**Reference Books:**
Mechanical Engineering:

Engineering Materials: Structure and properties of engineering materials and their applications; effect of strain, strain rate and temperature on mechanical properties of metals and alloys; heat treatment of metals and alloys, its influence on mechanical properties.

Applied Mechanics: Engineering mechanics – equivalent force systems, free body concepts, equations of equilibrium; strength of materials – stress, strain and their relationship, Mohr’s circle, deflection of beams, bending and shear stress, Euler’s theory of columns.

Theory of Machines and Design: Analysis of planar mechanisms, cams and followers; governors and fly wheels; design of elements – failure theories; design of bolted, riveted and welded joints; design of shafts, keys, spur gears, belt drives, brakes and clutches.

Thermal Engineering: Fluid mechanics – fluid statics, Bernoulli’s equation, flow through pipes, equations of continuity and momentum; thermodynamics – zeroth, first and second law of thermodynamics, thermodynamic system and processes, calculation of work and heat for systems and control volumes; air standard cycles; basics of internal combustion engines and steam turbines; heat transfer – fundamentals of conduction, convection and radiation, heat exchangers.

Metal Casting: Casting processes – types and applications; patterns – types and materials; allowances; moulds and cores – materials, making, and testing; casting techniques of cast iron, steels and nonferrous metals and alloys; solidification; design of casting, gating and risering; casting inspection, defects and remedies.

Metal Forming: Stress-strain relations in elastic and plastic deformation; concept of flow stress, deformation mechanisms; hot and cold working – forging, rolling, extrusion, wire and tube drawing; sheet metal working processes such as blanking, piercing, bending, deep drawing, coining and embossing; analysis of rolling, forging, extrusion and wire/rod drawing; metal working defects.

Metal Joining Processes: Welding processes – manual metal arc, MIG, TIG, plasma arc, submerged arc, electro slag, thermit, resistance, forge, friction, and explosive welding; other joining processes – soldering, brazing, braze welding; inspection of welded joints, defects and remedies; introduction to advanced welding processes – ultrasonic, electron beam, laser beam; thermal cutting.

Machining and Machine Tool Operations: Basic machine tools; machining processes-turning, drilling, boring, milling, shaping, planing, gear cutting, thread production, broaching, grinding, lapping, honing, super finishing; mechanics of machining – geometry of cutting tools, chip formation, cutting forces and power requirements, Merchant’s analysis; selection of machining parameters; tool materials, tool wear and tool life, thermal aspects of machining, cutting fluids, machinability; principles and applications of nontraditional machining processes – USM, AJM, WJM, EDM and Wire cut EDM, LBM, EBM, PAM, CHM, ECM.

Tool Engineering: Jigs and fixtures – principles, applications, and design; press tools – configuration, design of die and punch; principles of forging die design.

Metrology and Inspection: Limits, fits, and tolerances, interchangeability, selective assembly; linear and angular measurements by mechanical and optical methods, comparators; design of limit gauges; interferometry; measurement of straightness, flatness, roundness, squareness and symmetry; surface finish measurement; inspection of screw threads and gears; alignment testing of machine tools.
Powder Metallurgy: Production of metal powders, compaction and sintering.

Polymers and Composites: Introduction to polymers and composites; plastic processing – injection, compression and blow molding, extrusion, calendaring and thermoforming; molding of composites.

Computer Integrated Manufacturing: Basic concepts of CAD, CAM, CAPP, cellular manufacturing, NC, CNC, DNC, Robotics, FMS, and CIM.

Product Design and Development: Principles of good product design, tolerance design; quality and cost considerations; product life cycle; standardization, simplification, diversification, value engineering and analysis, concurrent engineering.

Facility Design: Facility location factors and evaluation of alternate locations; types of plant layout and their evaluation; computer aided layout design techniques; assembly line balancing; materials handling systems.

Production Planning and Inventory Control: Forecasting techniques – causal and time series models, moving average, exponential smoothing, trend and seasonality; aggregate production planning; master production scheduling; MRP and MRP-II; order control and flow control; routing, scheduling and priority dispatching; push and pull production systems, concept of JIT manufacturing system; logistics, distribution, and supply chain management; Inventory – functions, costs, classifications, deterministic and probabilistic inventory models, quantity discount; perpetual and periodic inventory control systems.

Operation Research: Linear programming – problem formulation, simplex method, duality and sensitivity analysis; transportation and assignment models; network flow models, constrained optimization and Lagrange multipliers; simple queuing models; dynamic programming; simulation – manufacturing applications; PERT and CPM, time-cost trade-off, resource leveling.

Quality Management: Quality – concept and costs, quality circles, quality assurance; statistical quality control, acceptance sampling, zero defects, six sigma; total quality management; ISO 9000; design of experiments – Taguchi method.