COURSE CONTENT

Course Code / Title  :  HS2002 Doing Social Research
Pre-requisites      :  HS1001 Person and Society
No. of AUs.         :  3
Contact Hours       :  39 (2-hours of lecture and 1-hour tutorial per week)

Course Aims

The aim of this course is to familiarize the student with the different types of social data, and how this data is collected and used to understand our social world.

This course should provide working answers to the following questions:
- To reflect on how we know the social world;
- To understand how data on society is obtained;
- To explore the relationship between social theory and data.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Describe the different social research methods.
2. Differentiate between qualitative and quantitative methods.
3. Evaluate the different ways social scientists have approached the study of society.

Course Content

Week 1  Introduction to the course
Key concepts: Observation
             Errors in inquiry

Week 2  Theory and Research
Key concepts: Paradigm
             Positivism
             Symbolic Interactionism
             Structural Functionalism

Week 3  Design
Key concepts: Nomothetic
Idiographic
Conceptualization
Operationalization

Week 4 Measurement
Key concepts: Unit of Analysis
Temporality
Reliability
Validity

Week 5 Sampling
Key concepts: Probability
Non-probability
Random

Week 6 Survey Research
Key concepts: Double-barreled
Response rates

Week 7 Quantitative Data Analysis
Key concepts: Distributions
Central Tendency
Dispersion

Week 8 Qualitative Field Research
Key concepts: Grounded Theory
Naturalism
Ethnography

Week 9 Unobtrusive Research
Key concepts: Biography
Content Analysis

Week 10 Qualitative Data Analysis
Key concepts: Classification
Coding

Week 11 Evaluation Research
Key concepts: Social Indicators

Week 12 Ethics
Key concepts: Voluntary participation
Confidentiality
Anonymity

Week 13  Semester-end review/revision

**Course Assessment**

CA1  Group work  : 20%
CA2  Individual project  : 15%
CA3  Quizzes  : 15%
CA4  Class participation  : 10%
Final Examination  : 40%
**Total**  
**100%**