DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

5-DAYS NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

"Reimagining Research Methodology in Social Sciences: Emerging Approaches, Digital Transformations and Ethical Challenges"

30 November 2026 – 04 December 2026

1. WORKSHOP OVERVIEW & KEY INFORMATION

Workshop Title	Reimagining Research Methodology in Social Sciences: Emerging Approaches, Digital Transformations and Ethical Challenges
Dates & Duration	30 November 2026 – 04 December 2026 (Five Days)
Level & Mode	National Level | Hybrid Mode (Offline & Online)
Host Institution	Department of Sociology, University of Kashmir, Hazratbal, Srinagar (J&K)
Target Participants	Research Scholars, Newly Recruited University & College Faculty, and Early Career Researchers (Intake: ~30 participants)
Accommodation & Food	Provided on a payment basis upon prior request, subject to availability
Registration Portal	https://forms.gle/A3BVQhWuLfjPoZTw5

2. REGISTRATION FEES & IMPORTANT DATES

The registration fee is inclusive of the workshop kit and working meals (refreshments and lunch) during the workshop days:

Participant Category	Registration Fee
Research Scholars (without accommodation)	**Rs. 1,000/- only**
Faculty Members (without accommodation)	**Rs. 2,000/- only**
Outstation Participants (with accommodation)	**Rs. 6,000/- only**

Milestone / Event	Date
Last Date for Submission of Online Application	**20 November 2026**
Notification of Acceptance (via Email to Shortlisted Candidates)	**23 November 2026**
Workshop Dates	**30 November – 04 December 2026**

3. CONCEPT NOTE

Research methodology occupies a central position in the development of knowledge in the social sciences. In contemporary society, social science inquiry is undergoing profound transformation. Traditional approaches to empirical investigation are increasingly being supplemented by interdisciplinary perspectives, mixed-method designs, participatory action research, digital ethnography, computational social science, and data-driven analytical techniques. The rapid expansion of digital technologies, online platforms, artificial intelligence (AI), and advanced analytical software has created unprecedented opportunities for collecting, processing, analysing, and interpreting social data.

At the same time, these technological and methodological shifts have introduced complex epistemological and ethical challenges. Critical questions surrounding data privacy, informed consent in digital spaces, algorithmic bias, digital exclusion, research integrity, confidentiality, plagiarism, and the responsible deployment of generative artificial intelligence demand rigorous scholarly scrutiny. Furthermore, researchers must remain attentive to how local social, historical, and cultural contexts shape the production, representation, and interpretation of knowledge.

Against this backdrop, the proposed five-day national workshop, entitled “Reimagining Research Methodology in Social Sciences: Emerging Approaches, Digital Transformations and Ethical Challenges”, seeks to provide a comprehensive academic platform for examining contemporary developments in social science research. The workshop will bring together research scholars, faculty members, research supervisors, postgraduate students, and practitioners to exchange ideas, build methodological competencies, and explore innovative research paradigms through a balanced blend of theoretical lectures, practical demonstrations, group exercises, and hands-on software training.

4. OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

1. To familiarize the participants with the philosophical and theoretical foundations of social science research, contemporary qualitative and quantitative approaches and to equip them with skills to identify research problems and formulate research questions, objectives and hypothesis
2. To enhance practical skills in research design, sampling, instrument development, and data collection.
3. To introduce participants to digital tools and software for statistical analysis, qualitative data analysis, and research management.
4. To critically examine the opportunities and limitations of artificial intelligence in social science research.
5. To promote awareness of research ethics, academic integrity, data protection, and responsible research practices.
6. To develop participants' skills in reviewing literature, writing research proposals, and preparing dissertations and scholarly articles.

5. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the five-day workshop, participants will be able to:

- At the end of the workshop, participants are expected to be able to:
- Explain the major philosophical perspectives underlying social science research.
- Distinguish between quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods approaches.
- Formulate clear research problems, objectives, questions, and hypotheses.
- Select appropriate research designs and sampling strategies.
- Develop basic research instruments, including questionnaires and interview schedules.
- Understand the practical applications and limitations of digital research tools.
- Hands-on-training on statistical and qualitative applications.
- Critically evaluate the use of AI in literature reviews, writing, and data analysis.
- Identify ethical risks and propose appropriate safeguards for research involving human participants.
- Apply principles of academic integrity and responsible research data management.
- Prepare an initial research proposal or methodological plan.
- Identify opportunities for interdisciplinary research and collaborative knowledge production.

6. VENUE & TRAVEL INFORMATION (HOW TO REACH SRINAGAR)

Venue: Department of Sociology, University of Kashmir, Hazratbal, Srinagar – 190006, Jammu & Kashmir.

- **By Air:** The nearest airport is Sheikh ul-Alam International Airport, Srinagar (SXR), located approximately 20–22 km from the University of Kashmir campus. Regular direct flights connect Srinagar with major Indian cities including New Delhi, Mumbai, Chandigarh, Lucknow, and Bengaluru. Prepaid taxis and app-based cabs are readily available outside the terminal.
- **By Rail:** Train services operate up to Srinagar Railway Station (Nowgam) via Banihal/Jammu. From the Srinagar Railway Station, hired cabs and auto-rickshaws are available to reach the Hazratbal campus of the University of Kashmir.
- **By Road:** Srinagar, the summer capital of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, is well connected via National Highway 44 (NH-44) with Jammu, Chandigarh, New Delhi, and Leh. Regular deluxe buses, state transport services, and private taxis operate to and from the city.

7. PATRONS, CONVENOR AND COORDINATORS

Chief Patron	Prof. Nilofer Khan, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir
Patron	Prof. Shariefuddin Pirzada, Dean Academic Affairs, University of Kashmir Prof. Bashir Ahmad Ganaie, Dean Research, University of Kashmir Prof. Aneesa Shafi, Dean, College Development Council, University of Kashmir Prof. Naseer Iqbal, Registrar, University of Kashmir
Convenor	Prof. Manzoor Hussain, Head, Department of Sociology, University of Kashmir
Coordinator	Dr. Farah Qayoom, Sr. Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Kashmir
Co-Coordinator	Dr. Nargis Khatoon, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Kashmir

Co-Coordinator	Dr. Ajaz Ahmad Gilani, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Kashmir
Assistant Coordinator	Dr. Shameem Ahamad Ganayee Assistant Professor (C), Department of Sociology, University of Kashmir

8. ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Prof. Manzoor Hussain, Dr. Farah Qayoom, Dr. Nargis Khatoon, Dr. Ajaz Ahmad Gilani, Dr. Shameem Ahamad Ganayee

FOR QUERIES & FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Email: ajazgilani@uok.edu.in | **Mobile:** +91-8491091346 / +91-9419900412