



DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH METHODS

PROF. RAJSHREE BEDAMATTA

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INTENDED AUDIENCE : This course is meant for postgraduate students from any discipline who are interested in taking up research in the field of social sciences, with particular focus on the Development Sector. Professionals working in the development sector, or those pursuing Rural Management or Rural Development Courses will also benefit.

COURSE OUTLINE :

This course will provide training in some methodological approaches in Development studies and Development research that will equip the students into applying them in their dissertations or project evaluations. Applied and practice oriented issues in development research methods will be taken up by focusing on the differences in qualitative, quantitative and mixed-methods research. Anyone who is interested in development issues and undertaking development research is encouraged to enroll.

ABOUT INSTRUCTOR :

Prof. Rajshree Bedamatta is an Associate Professor of Economics at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, India. Her university training is in the discipline of Economics with specialization in Development Economics. She teaches and researches in the broad domains on Development Economics and Public Economics at IIT Guwahati. Her research is on agrarian markets with focus in the domains of food and nutrition, health and education.

COURSE PLAN :

Week 1 : Different types of Development Studies: forms of studies and typical research questions; development research-development work continuum

Week 2 : Different types of Development Studies: forms of studies and typical research questions; development research-development work continuum Cont.,

Week 3 : Development Research Methods: Ethics and Values; Understanding the 'field' and the 'fieldworker'; qualitative development research methods (interviews, focus groups, participatory methods and approaches, diaries and case studies)

Week 4: Development Research Methods: Ethics and Values; Understanding the 'field' and the 'fieldworker'; qualitative development research methods (interviews, focus groups, participatory methods and approaches, diaries and case studies) Cont.,

Week 5 : Research methods and possible combinations: quantitative methods; mixed methods; interdisciplinary perspectives; problem analysis in logical framework approach

Week 6 : Research methods and possible combinations: quantitative methods; mixed methods; interdisciplinary perspectives; problem analysis in logical framework approach Cont.,

Week 7 : Selected development issues and approaches: evolving approaches in poverty evaluation; gender analysis and approaches to gender mainstreaming; challenges of implementing rights based approaches; social capital assessments

Week 8: Selected development issues and approaches: evolving approaches in poverty evaluation; gender analysis and approaches to gender mainstreaming; challenges of implementing rights based approaches; social capital assessments Cont.,