



ICSSR SPONSORED
Workshop on
Enhancing Research Capacities in Social
Sciences Research: A Comprehensive
Workshop on Research Methodology

April 1-10, 2025



Organised By:
Department of Geography
Cotton University
Guwahati, Assam

About the course

Social Science research encompasses a broad range of methods, from qualitative techniques such as interviews, surveys and ethnographic analysis to quantitative approaches and techniques like spatial analysis, statistical modelling and GIS (Geographical Information Systems). However, many students and early-career researchers often struggle with understanding and applying these diverse methodologies effectively. This workshop aims to fill this gap by offering comprehensive training on various research methodologies that are applicable to research in Social Sciences. The main goal is to provide participants with a solid understanding of research methodologies, tools, and techniques in different branches of Social Sciences, and help them build essential skills in designing and conducting research, ensuring data quality, and effectively communicating their findings. As these fields continue to evolve, the need for rigorous and interdisciplinary research methodologies becomes more crucial.

This 10-day workshop aims to build the capacities of researchers by providing them with the necessary skills, techniques, and knowledge to conduct effective, ethical, and relevant social research across diverse fields. Through this initiative, it is expected to bridge the gap between theory and practice, equipping participants with the competence to carry out comprehensive, interdisciplinary research that is methodologically sound.

Objectives and methodology of the course

The primary objectives of the workshop are as follows:

1. To provide participants with a thorough understanding of research methodologies relevant to Social Science research, including both qualitative and quantitative approaches.
2. To introduce participants to diverse research tools such as surveys, interviews, case studies, ethnographic

fieldwork, content analysis, statistical software, referencing tools and GIS (Geographic Information Systems).

3. To enhance participants' skills in data collection, analysis, and interpretation while considering ethical implications and challenges specific to social research.

4. To foster an interdisciplinary approach by highlighting the overlap of research methods across different fields (geography, anthropology, sociology, political science, economics, etc.), thereby enabling participants to conduct research in a holistic manner.

5. To guide participants on how to effectively communicate research findings, whether through reports, articles, or presentations, while adhering to academic standards.

The course is designed to impart research methodology through theoretical lectures and discussions, hands on practices on certain statistical tools and fieldwork.

About Cotton University

Cotton University, formerly Cotton College is a public state university located in Guwahati, Assam, India, came into existence in 2017 after upgrading the then 116 year old college. Established in 1901 by Sir John Henry Stedman Cotton, the chief commissioner of Assam province, the Cotton College was the first institute of higher education in the entire Northeast India. Since then it has contributed significantly to the academic and social field of the region.

About the Department

The Department of Geography was established in 1959 with geography as a subject in pre university course. In the year 1961, the department was upgraded to a degree department and in the following year Honours course in geography was started. From the session 1984-85 post

graduate course in geography under Gauhati University was started. The department was recognised and permitted for Ph D research by Gauhati University in 1990. More than 30 Ph D degrees have been awarded by Gauhati University to the scholars of Geography department of Cotton College. Significant progress in research has been made by the department since it became a university department under Cotton University in 2017.

How to Apply

Registered or enrolled PhD scholars in any recognised Indian university/research institute are eligible to apply for the course. Registration form (Google form) is available in the link provided in this brochure which is also available in the university website cottonuniversity.ac.in. Applicants must upload a scanned copy of NOC duly signed by the head of the department/centre/institute along with the registration form. The format of NOC is available at the link given at the end of this brochure.

The number of seats for the course is 30; 10 for outside the state, 10 for within the state and 10 for local applicants. Selection of applicants will be as per ICSSR norms and first come first serve basis. However, in case of vacant seats in a category may be filled up from other categories. It is mandatory for all participants to attend all the sessions of the course. On successful completion of the workshop certificates will be provided to the participants.

Registration Fee, Accommodation and Travel Allowances

There is **no registration fee** for the course. Accommodation to outstation participants will be provided on request. Travel allowances by shortest distance by bus or train (sleeper class) will be reimbursed to outstation participants as per ICSSR guidelines. The participants must produce the original tickets for reimbursement.

Important Dates:

Duration of the course: 1-10 April, 2025

Last date to apply: 15 th March, 2025

Intimation to selected candidates: 20th March, 2025

Organising Committee

Chief Adviser:

Prof Ramesh Ch. Deka
Vice Chancellor, Cotton University

Advisers:

Dr Arindam Garg
Registrar, CU
Dr. Bedanta Bora
Academic Registrar, CU
Prof Kalyan Das
Geography Dept

Course Director:

Prof Barnali Gogoi

Course Co-Director:

Dr Bikash Jyoti Gautam

Executive Members:

Dr. Mala Dutta
Dr. Parijat Borgohain
Dr. Ujjal Deka Baruah
Dr. Gitika Thakuriah
Dr. Nitashree Mili
Ms Jyotimala Doley
Dr. Monjit Borthakur
Dr. Girimallika Bora

Address for Correspondence:

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Guwahati-781001, Assam

Workshop mail id: rmworkshopcu2025@gmail.com

Contact Numbers: 8876189318/ 7086110863

How to reach Cotton University:

- Nearest airport LGB International Airport is 23 KM away from the venue.
- Nearest ISBT is 11 KM away from the venue.
- Guwahati Railway station is 500 meters from the venue.

Registration Form link:

[Registration Form](#)

Or scan the QR code



NOC format:

[Click to download NOC Format](#)