**AHS 3101 Research Methods in Archaeology**

**Course objectives:** The aim of this course is to teach students about the basic methods of designing and implementing a scientific research in archaeology and anthropology.

**Course Description**

Training in archaeology appropriately emphasizes mastery of techniques and theories essential elements of any original research. Within the social sciences, archaeology employs earth science, biological and social science techniques necessitating her own research method course. The course will focus on issues that are often neglected in the formal training of scientists, such as how to plan a study adequately, secure research funds effectively, and present results (written and oral) clearly and interestingly. Students will learn, for example, how to formulate problems and to select relevant methods required for data collection, analysis and construction.

**Assessment:** 30% Course Work; 70% Examination

**Course Outline**

Topic 1: Scientific Epistemology

* 1. Science as a process and product
  2. Deduction and prediction
  3. Induction an model
  4. Models: hypothesis, theory, law
  5. Role of the individual researcher

Topic 2: Planning research

2.2 Finding a problem

2.2 Formulating a hypothesis/model

2.3 Devising testable predictions

2.4 Implementing the Plan

Topic 3: How to Write a Research Proposal

3.1 Significance of a title

3.2 Identifying objectives

3.3 Literature review

3.4 Defining a theoretical framework

3.5 Hypothesis and prediction

3.6 Methods

3.7 Significance

3.8 Conclusion

3.9 References

3.10 Budget and budget justification

3.11 Appendix

3.12 Table of contents

Topic 4: How to Write a Research Report

4.1 Front matter (title page and abstract)

4.2 Body of report (introduction, methods, results, discussion)

4.3 End matter (acknowledgement and appendices)

4.4 References

4.5 tables and figures

4.6 Submission and review

Topic 5: How to present Research

5.1 Research seminars (content and organization, Practice, style, delivery, ending the talk, questions and answer time) 5.2

5.2 Audio-visual aids

5.3 Talks at scientific meetings

5.4 Posters at scientific meetings

**Basic readings**

Bernard, H. R 1995. *Research Methods in Anthropology: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches.* London: Altamira Press.

Denzin, N.K and Y.S. Lincoln (eds) 1994. *Handbook of Qualitative Research*.London: SAGE Publications.

Fink, A 1995a. *How to Analyze Survey Data.*London: SAGE Publications.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1995b.*How to Report on Surveys.*London: SAGE Publications.

Hailman, J. P. and Karen, B. S. 1997.*Planning, Proposing, and Presenting Science Effectively.*Cambridge: CambridgeUniversity Press.

Kothari, C.R. 2005. *Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques.* New Delhi: Wiley Eastern.