

# Peer-orientation on Dissertation Writing, Series III

‘Chapter Three’ of the Dissertation (Research Methodology)

**Presented by: Ashwin Kumar K.C, Sarina Karmacharya, Pooja Panthi**

## Presented On

### 3.1 Research Design

- i. It gives framework and works like blue-print to the research. Research design gives outline from the initial phase of dissertation to the very last. The strategy the researcher uses or the approaches the researcher takes to do the research for the outcome one tends to get or what one prefers the research to be like is explained in the research design.
- ii. Basic yet very important for research as it works as foundation of the research.
- iii. The main step or foundation of research design is the research problem. The identification of research problem plays a vital role whether you have done it in a biased nature or been neutral.
- iv. Another is the weightage of literature review to prolong the research is also very important while framing the research design.
- v. After the identification of research problem the researcher should select the needed data from the available data to reach the core of the research and the sources of the data to be taken; primary or secondary.
- vi. The researcher distinguishes the data collecting tools and techniques; data are collected and processed and then the presentation is made.
- vii. The researcher should determine one or more from the various types of research designs; experimental, empirical, archival, analytical exploratory, descriptive, cross-sectional, diagnostic etc. and not necessarily stick to just one type. The researcher can use more than one research design.
- viii. Various factors affect research design; time, budget, human resource, number of libraries and institutions the researcher visits, interviews of various personals etc. should be considered to come to certain conclusion of the research.

#### Don'ts

1. One of the common mistakes made by the researchers while writing content is that the researcher opts to give the definition of the type of research design used in the dissertation. (e.g: if the researcher is using exploratory research then write about what exploratory research is in common parlance and what it covers rather than bringing someone's definition.) (What)
2. Another one is that researchers do not write about why their dissertation includes the very research design or the importance of the very research design in the type of research the researcher is conducting and also the researcher is to analyze that if any research is carried and previously and what sort of research design is used in the research. (Why is such type of research design important to this research ?)
3. The researchers do not justify about the research design used in the research which later might even question the credibility of the research. (Why )

### 3.2 Universe/Population

- i. When the research is being carried out, the researcher is to make the area of the research as the universe. For eg: out of all the countries in the World take Judges of Nepal as universe; from Nepal also the Judges of SC only. Narrow down the scope of the research as much as possible.
- ii. Both universe and sampling have a very close relation. Universe covers the areas such as: what can the subject of research be, with whom the interview can be taken, which resources are to be referred etc.

Note: common mistake made by the researchers is the language used in the research methodology section. After approval of the proposal the researcher tends to copy the same language of the proposal which makes the researcher use **future tense** in the research work. But the researchers are to see that there should be the **use of past tense or present perfect tense** because the research has already been conducted.

For eg: the researcher will use..... (wrong)

The researcher has used..... (correct)

This comes to be effective in same way over the entire chapter.

### 3.3 Sampling

- i. It is a systematic way of showing what data are included in the research and what exact number is allocated for the research study.
- ii. After selecting the universe, the researcher is to select certain people as sample for the research which later on helps in forming the research question.
- iii. Sampling Strain: which individuals are to be focused is to be listed in the sampling strain. After listing the individual, the researcher will target on the listed individuals rather than including the entire population.
- iv. Sampling size is very important in the research as the researcher will have to make the research very precise therefore certain sample size should be maintained.
- v. Types of sampling: probability (random, systematic, stratified, cluster) and non-probability (purposive) - which helps in forming the research question.

### 3.4 Techniques of Data Collection

- i. It shows the various ways from which data can be collected.
- ii. After sampling, the group and number of people are separated but the data that we want is separated from the tools we use. For eg: primary data collection (observation, interviews, surveys, questionnaires) and secondary data collection (journals, articles, government publications, and official websites).
- iii. In the case of interview, the researcher is to include the full details of the interviewee including the designation with the consent taken which verifies that the interviewer has taken the interview.
- iv. The questionnaire should be able to cover the area of survey to be done in the research. This way the researcher data will also be verified, the necessary data will also be collected and the researcher will not get driven out of the subject matter and stick to the very topic.

### 3.5 Nature and Sources of Data

- i. Primary and Secondary data: primary data collected from primary sources (observation, interviews, surveys, questionnaires) and secondary data collected from secondary sources (journals, articles, government publications, and official websites).

- ii. Primary and secondary source of authority.

### 3.6 Analysis and Presentation of Data

- i. The researched data is the fruit of the researcher. It is the process of bringing all the researched work into one area and analyzes the best ones used for the research.
- ii. The analysis of the data will be as per the research done whether qualitative or quantitative.

#### Common Concerns

1. The entire length of this chapter shall be in between 5 to 7 pages at maximum.
2. This chapter should obligatorily have six titles as given.
3. Language used in this chapter should be cared much as that has been common error noted mostly taking place in most of submitted works.
4. Every title should have three types of contents (preferably one paragraph in each type) in following ways:

Title	First Section	Second Section	Third Section
Research Design	Concept and Importance	Various Types of Research Designs	The Used Research Design and Why is that Preferable in this Study?
Universe	Concept and Importance	What is Universe for this Study?	Why is that Chosen?
Sampling	Concept and Importance	Various Types of Samplings	The Used Sampling Method, Chosen Sample and Why is that Preferable in this Study?
Data Collection	Concept and Importance	Various Types of Data Collection Methods	The Used Data Collection Method, and Why is that Preferable in this Study?
Nature and Sources of Data	Concept and Importance	Various Types of Data in Nature and Sources	The Used Data in terms of Nature and Sources and Why is that Preferable in this Study?
Analysis and Presentation	Concept and Importance	Various Types of Analysis and Presentation	The Used Analysis and Presentation Method, and Why is that Preferable in this Study?