

RESEARCH AND PROJECT GUIDELINES

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RESEARCH

- Search for Knowledge
- A careful investigation of inquiry specially through search for new fact in any branch of knowledge.
- Research comprises defining and redefining problems, formulating hypothesis or suggested solutions; collecting, organizing and evaluation data; making deductions and researching conclusions; and at last carefully testing the conclusions to determine whether they fit the formulating hypothesis.

OBJECTIVES OF RESEARCH

- To gain familiarity with a phenomenon or to achieve new insights into it.
- To portray accurately the characteristics of a particular individual, situation or a group.
- To determine the frequency with which something occurs or with which it is associated with something else.
- To test a hypothesis of a causal relationship between variables.

TYPES OF RESEARCH

1. Descriptive v. Analytical
2. Applied v. Fundamental
3. Quantitative v. Qualitative
4. Conceptual v. Empirical

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- Research methods may be understood as all those methods/techniques that are used for conduction of research. Eg. Analysis, observation, questionnaire, interview, survey, case study etc.
- Research methodology is a way to systematically solve the research problem.
- Thus when we talk about of research methodology we not only talk of the research methods but also consider the logic behind the methods we use in the context of our research study and explain why we are using a particular method or technique and why we are not using others so that research results are capable of being evaluated either by the researcher himself or by others.

TYPES OF RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Doctrinal Research Methodology

- A doctrinal research means a research that has been carried out on a legal proposition or propositions by way of analyzing the existing statutory provisions and cases by applying the reasoning power.

Non- Doctrinal Research Methodology

- Non-doctrinal research, also known as socio-legal research is a legal research that employs methods taken from other disciplines to generate empirical data to answer research questions.
- Non-doctrinal approach allows the researcher to perform inter disciplinary research where he analyses law from the perspective of other sciences and employs these sciences in the formulation of the law.

SOURCES OF LEGAL RESEARCH

- The materials used for legal research are generally divided into two broad categories: primary sources and secondary sources.
- Primary legal sources are the actual law in the form of constitutions, court cases, statutes, and administrative rules and regulations.
- Secondary legal sources may restate the law, but they also discuss, analyze, describe, explain, or critique it as well. Secondary sources are used to help locate primary sources of law, define legal words and phrases, or help in legal research. In short, anything that is more than the actual law is considered a secondary source.

PRIMARY SOURCES

- Primary law consists of sources that state the actual law. These sources include:
 1. Constitution (either federal or state)
 2. Statutes (laws enacted by legislatures); municipal codes (enacted by local councils)
 3. Cases (opinions handed down by courts)
 4. Rules and Regulations (established by administrative government agencies)
 5. Treaties- Eg. [Geneva Convention, North American Free Trade Agreement, Worldwide Chemical Weapons Convention]

SECONDARY SOURCES

- Secondary sources consists of sources that explain, criticize, discuss, or help locate primary law. Examples of secondary legal sources include:
- Legal dictionaries [Black's Law Dictionary, Nolo's Plain English Law Dictionary]
- Legal encyclopedias and digests [Gale Encyclopedia of American Law, American Jurisprudence, Washington Digest]
- Law reviews and journals [Virginia Law Review, Seattle University Law Review, Yale Law Journal]
- Legal Books or Commentaries
- Manuals and guides on how to practice law

PURPOSE OF PROJECT WORK WRITING:

- Writing a Project Work report on a specific topic enables the student to improve the language skills, intellectual enquiry, organizing the matter and analysis.
- “Writing makes an exact man’ (Francis Bacon). In searching and collecting sources for the topic, choosing relevant information and discarding the irrelevant, understanding and analyzing the subject matter and organizing the same into a final report, the author passes through a rigorous process of intellectual challenge and learning.
- The student is expected to move away from total dependence on formal/class room teaching to elevate oneself to higher learning through self-discipline and critical intellectual enquiry. Project Work is the best opportunity to channelize one’s intellectual energies and enhance research abilities.

GUIDELINES FOR PROJECT WORK

1. Each student has to submit one Project Work.
2. The Project work should be a complete original work of the student.
3. One student should work individually on one Project Work. Co-authored or multiple authored Project Work will not be accepted.
4. Each student has to submit a Project Proposal to the Centre for the purposes for verification..
5. Each Project Work carries 30 Marks.

CONTINUED....

6. **Draft Project Work Proposal** should contain the following components:

- a. *Introduction:* The researcher is required to introduce the subject and the issue involved in brief.
- b. *Statement of Problem:* The researcher is required to explain the debatable issue involved in a research topic. Such issues could be single or multiple. A Statement of Problem is basically a statement that illustrates a clear vision and the overall method that will be used to solve the problem at hand. Usually used when doing research, a problem statement discusses any foreseeable tangible or intangible problems that the researcher may face throughout the course of the Project Work .
- c. *Research Questions:* A research question is an answerable inquiry into a specific concern or issue. It is the initial step in a Project Work . The 'initial step' means after you have an idea of what you want to study, the research question is the first active step in the Project Work .

CONTINUED....

- d. *Hypothesis*: A research hypothesis is the statement created by researchers when they speculate upon the outcome of a research or experiment. It is an assumption with which the researcher begins its research and throughout the Project Work , the researcher should seek to prove or disprove the hypothesis.
- e. *Research Methodology*: The method that the researcher adopts to conduct a research i.e. doctrinal or non-doctrinal or empirical. The researcher has to state along with the method the justification of using the method in a Project Work . Please note that the researcher can use a combination of both the methods as long as the researcher is able to justify the usage of the combined method.
- f. *Research Plan / Tentative Chapterization*: The researcher is required to briefly state how the researcher intends to go about the research. The researcher is required to categorize the Project Work into broad chapter and provide a gist of contents that the researcher intends to include in each chapter.

7. FORMAT OF THE FINAL PROJECT WORK:

The research paper should mandatorily contain the following components which will precede the content / chapters of the research paper / Project Work :

- Cover Page
- Table of Contents / Index
- Table of Cases(if any)
- Table of Statutes(if any)

8. CONTENT OF THE FINAL PROJECT WORK:

- Chapter I : Final Project Work Proposal (the proposal revised after the suggestions, if any.)
- Chapter II: Historical Background / Evolution of the issue behind the Project Work topic
- Chapter III: Nature and Scope of the Project Work Topic. The researcher is required to elaborately discuss the Project Work topic.
- Chapter IV: Critical Analysis of the Issue involved. The researcher is required to apply the existing laws to the issue behind the Project Work topic and identify the regulatory gaps.

CONTINUED....

- Chapter V: Impact of the regulatory gaps or grey areas so developed and examine the future prospects of the issue.
- Chapter VI: Conclusion and Suggestion: Conclusion should summarize your main arguments and please do not open any new arguments in the conclusion. Suggestion should be supported with feasible reasons and justifications

Please note that these chapters are a tentative outline in order to give the researcher an idea. Barring the first and the last chapter, the researcher is free to change the above mentioned chapterization depending upon the requirement of the research topic.

9. FOOTNOTES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY :

- Footnotes should be placed at the end of the page.
- Bibliography should come at the end of the Project Works.

FORMAT FOR FOOTNOTES

- **CITATION OF BOOK AUTHORED:**

- **Book by Single Author:** Name of the author, Title of the book, No. of edition Year of edition, Page no.

- Eg: V. Balakista Reddy, “EMERGING TRENDS IN AIR AND SPACE LAW”, 1st ed. 2007, p. 109.

- **Book by Two Authors:** Name of the authors, Title of the book, No. of edition Year of edition, Page no.

- Eg: Paul B. Larsen and Francis Lyall, SPACE LAW: A TREATISE, 1st ed. 2009, pp. 209-210

- **Book by Multiple Authors:** Name of the authors (the first one) et al., Title of the book, No. of edition Year of edition, Page no.

- Eg: S. Bhatt et al., AIR LAW AND POLICY IN INDIA, 1st ed. 1997, p. 154.

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- **CITATION OF A BOOK EDITED**

- **Book Edited by Single Author:** Name of the editor (ed.), Title of the book, No. of edition
Year of edition, Page no.
- Eg: Stephan Hobe (ed.), PIONEERS OF SPACE LAW, 1st ed. 2013, p. 45.
- **Book Edited by Two Authors:** Name of the editors (eds.), Title of the book, No. of edition
Year of edition, Page no.
- Eg: V. Balakista Reddy and Rahul J. Nikam (eds.), SPACE LAW AND CONTEMPORARY
ISSUES : PERSPECTIVES ON ASIA-PACIFIC REGION, 1st ed. 2004, p. 293.
- **Book Edited by Multiple Authors:** Name of the editors (the first one only) et al. (eds.),
Title of the book, No. of edition Year of edition, Page no.
- Eg: Christopher Drax et al. (eds.), AVIATION RISK AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT :
METHODS AND APPLICATIONS IN AVIATION ORGANIZATIONS, 1st ed. 2014, p. 356.

- **ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL**

- Name of the Researcher (author of the article), Title of the article, Vol. no. of the Journal, Part no. of the Journal (if any), Name/Title of the Journal, Year of Publication, Page no.
- Eg: Archana Parashar, "Welfare of the Child in Family Laws-India and Australia", 1NLR 2003, p. 49.

- **ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN A BOOK EDITED:**

- Name of the author of the article, Title of the article, Name of the editor (ed.), Title of the Book, No. of edition, Year of Publication, Page no.
- Eg: Elizabeth S. Scott, "Marital Commitment and the Legal Regulation of Divorce", Antony W Dunes (ed.), THE LAW AND ECONOMICS OF MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE, 1st ed. 2002, p. 35.

- **CITATION OF A PAPER/ ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN A LAW/CASE REPORTER**

- Name of the Researcher (author of the article), Title of the article, Name / Title of the Journal, Year of Publication, title of the section of the Reporter, Page no.
- Eg: Manoj Kumar Sharma, “Right to Health and Care as a Fundamental Right”, AIR 2005 Journal 255

- **INTERNET METHOD OF CITATION**

- Name of the Author, Title of the Book, No of edition year of edition, page number, URL address, Last Visited
- Eg: Lon Fuller, MORALITY OF LAW, 1st ed. 1998, p. 89,
<http://www.cac.psu.edu/jbe/twocot.html>, (Last Visited July 29, 2014)

- **UNPUBLISHED RESEARCH WORK**

- Ajai Kumar, “Changing Attitude Towards Marriage Under Various Personal Laws in India: A Socio-Legal Study”, (2001), (Unpublished Ph.D. thesis, M.D. University, Rohtak), p. 116

- **INTERVIEW**

- Interview with Prof. P.V. Rao, Maritime Law & International Law (Sept. 16, 2019)

10. MAIN TEXT & CHAPTER HEADING

- **Main Text:** Font: Times New Roman, Size: 12, Spacing: 1.5, Alignment: Justified.
- **Chapter Heading:** Times New Roman, Size: 12, Spacing 1.15, Alignment: Justified.

11. WORD LIMIT OF FINAL PROJECT WORK:

- **Word Limit of Final Project Work:** Around 4000-5000 words (20-25 pages.)

12. PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR OWN INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS OF THE TOPICS THAT HAVE BEEN ALLOTTED TO YOU, FOR YOUR RESEARCH PROJECT WORK.

13. CHECK LIST FOR RESEARCHER:

Before making the final submission the researcher must check whether their Project Work has achieved the following:

- Does the research work developed a new concept? Is it original?
- Is the research methodology appropriate and sound? Is it a new methodology or an improvement over existing methodology?
- Does it present a new solution/analysis to a significant problem?

CONTINUED....

- Does it enhance understanding of existing situation / problem or generate new hypotheses or provide directions for future research?
- Does it discuss practical implications and provide a framework to implement suggestions?
- Is the presentation lucid and scholarly?
- Is it a significant contribution?

14. Foreign Words should be italicized. Eg: *Sui generis, ipso facto, de facto.*
15. Direct Quotations should be used in double quotes (“ ”)
16. Please do not number paragraphs
17. Please do not have additional decorative cover pages pictures or borders.
18. Please do not get emotional in the research papers / Project Work. Your arguments and opinions should be supported by reasons and justifications.

PROJECT/ASSIGNMENT MARKS BREAKUP

Final Project/Assignment Work	Introduction and Statement of Problem	4
	Research Questions, Hypothesis & Research Methodology	3
	Research Plan/Tentative Chapterisation	3
	Format & Structure	4
	Content	10
	Conclusion & Suggestions	3
	Footnotes & Bibliography	3
Total Marks		30

TABLE OF CONTENTS / INDEX (IN CASE OF CASE STUDY)

- Chapter I – Introduction
- Chapter II - Facts of the Case
- Chapter III – Issues
- Chapter IV – Judgment
- Chapter V - Reasoning or Analysis
- Chapter VI - Contribution of the Case to Aviation Law/ Maritime Law/ Defence Law
- Chapter VII – Conclusion

Please Note that Depending on the case, the inclusion of additional elements like comparative analysis with laws of other state may be useful.

EVALUATION MARKS BREAK UP (30 MARKS)

Introduction (CH – I)	Content & Analysis (Ch –II – VI)	Conclusion (Ch-VII)	Footnotes & Bibliography	Format & Structure
4	15	4	3	4

PROJECT DEADLINES

- To be submitted at **CADLPROJECTS@NALSAR.AC.IN**
- Last Date to change the Project Topic-
- Last Date to Submit Project Proposals-
- Last Date to Submit Final Projects-
- Note: In no case the extension of the submission dates are allowed.
- For any further clarifications, you may contact us at **040-23498-445/444/374** or e-mail us.

THANK YOU