

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, JANKI DEVI MEMORIAL COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI**

**Report on One Week Workshop on Research Methodology, Research Ethics and IPR
(Hybrid Mode)**

I. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Methodology Workshop – Day 1 Report (April 1, 2025)

MODE- OFFLINE

Resource Person: Prof. Vasiraju Rajyalakshmi, Deptt. Of Sociology, JDMC

The first day of the one-week Research Methodology Workshop commenced with an engaging session conducted by Prof. Vasiraju Rajyalakshmi from the Department of Sociology. The session opened with a fundamental question: "Why do we need research?" —prompting students to critically reflect on the role and relevance of research in the social sciences. To push the boundaries of conventional thinking, Prof. Rajyalakshmi introduced an intriguing exercise asking students to share what comes to mind upon hearing the words "chudail" and "property."

Through this, she encouraged participants to unpack the layers of meaning and social connotations attached to these terms. This exercise served as a gateway into her own research journey, offering insights into how everyday concepts can be examined sociologically.

The session covered key initial steps in the research process, including:

- Identifying a research topic and target group
- Reading relevant past academic work

She emphasized that subsequent steps in the research process would be explored in the following sessions. Her approach not only clarified theoretical aspects of research but also grounded them in lived experiences and fieldwork, making the session both insightful and relatable.

FEEDBACK:

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ATTENDANCE:

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PHOTOGRAPHS:



Research Methodology Workshop – Day 2 Report (April 2, 2025)

MODE- OFFLINE

Resource Person: Prof. Ruby Bhardwaj from the Department of Sociology, JDMC

The second day of the workshop on ‘Research Methodology, Research Ethics, and IPR’ was conducted by Prof. Ruby Bhardwaj from the Department of Sociology, JDMC, in Room 43A. Before the session, she asked us to search for research methodology papers on Google Scholar to assess how many papers were actually relevant to sociology students. She emphasized the importance of an abstract, describing it as a short summary that provides a glimpse into a research paper. She compared it to a small window or a movie trailer that captures the reader’s interest and helps search engines index research based on key terms.

She explained that an abstract should be written in past tense and can be structured or unstructured. A well-structured abstract is clear, precise, and impactful, summarizing the research problem, methods, and findings without including citations, long definitions, or unnecessary jargon. She also provided an example of a structured abstract and guided us through its key elements. The session helped us understand how to craft an effective abstract that communicates the essence of research concisely and clearly.

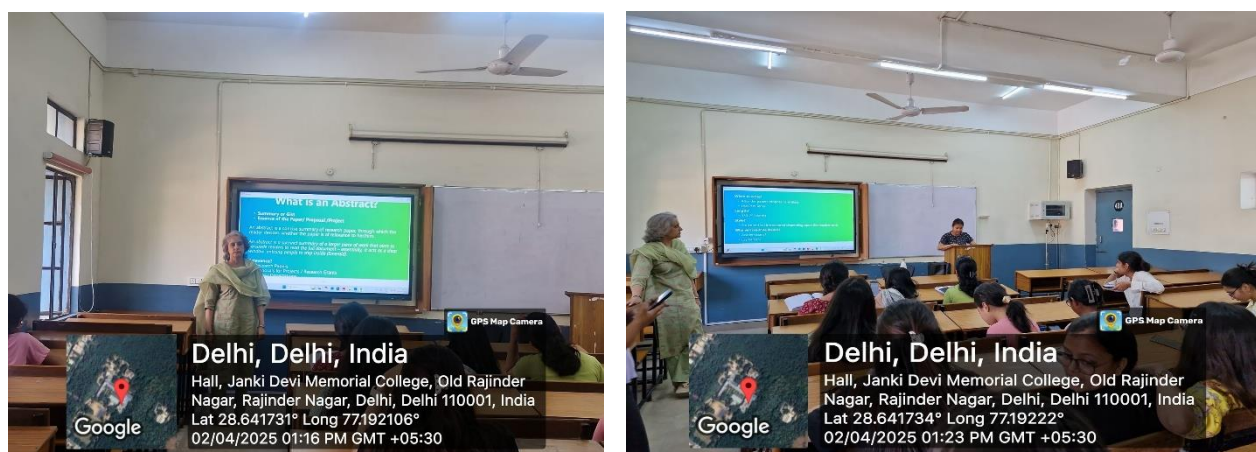
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PHOTOGRAPHS:



RESEARCH ETHICS

Research Ethics Workshop – Day 3 Report (April 5,2025)

ONLINE

Resource Person: Dr. Rituparna Patgiri, IIT Guwahati

On the third day of the workshop, Dr. Rituparna Patgiri from IIT Guwahati conducted an online session focused on ethnographic research, ethics, and the practical challenges researchers often face. The session proved to be insightful, offering participants a deeper understanding of the importance of conducting responsible and ethical research. A key takeaway from the session was the emphasis on ethical responsibilities in ethnographic research. Dr. Patgiri explained that research is not merely about data collection—it also involves respecting the rights and dignity of participants. Two significant ethical principles discussed were informed consent and confidentiality. Informed consent involves clearly explaining the purpose of the research and obtaining permission from participants, while confidentiality ensures that participants' identities remain protected. The session also shed light on the practical difficulties that arise in ethnographic research. Participants learned that individuals may sometimes be unwilling to share information or may not always respond truthfully. Another challenge discussed was researcher bias, where personal opinions or assumptions can influence data interpretation, ultimately affecting the reliability of research findings.

Overall, the session was a valuable learning experience for attendees. It provided a balanced perspective on ethical responsibilities and practical challenges in ethnographic research, encouraging researchers to remain both respectful and objective in their work.

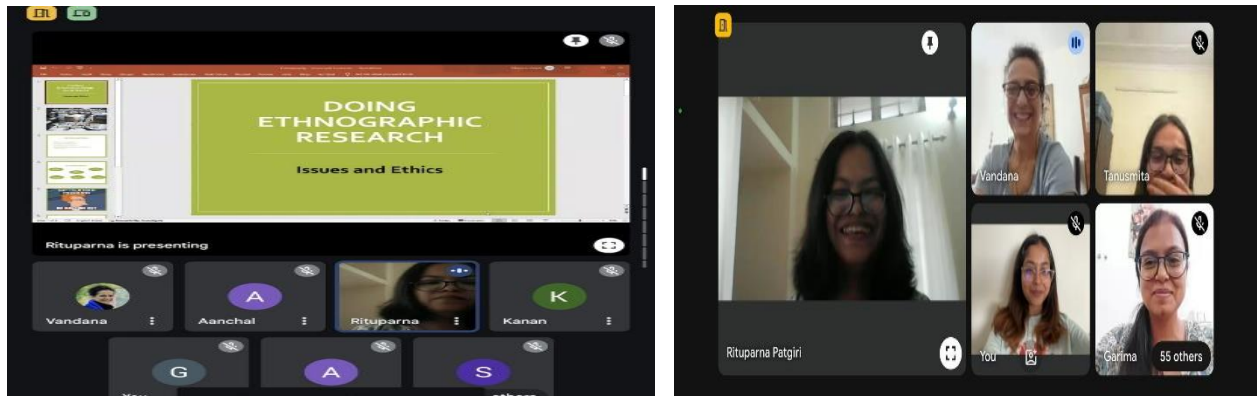
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PHOTOGRAPHS:



Research IPR Workshop – Day 4 Report (April 4,2025)

OFFLINE

Resource Person: Prof. Amita Charan, Dept. of Commerce, JDMC

The fourth day of the workshop on “Research Methodology, Research Ethics, and IPR” was led by Prof. Amita Charan from the Department of Commerce, JDMC. Her session was insightful and focused on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), which play an essential role in protecting creative and innovative works.

Prof. Charan explained the different types of IPR, including patents, trademarks, copyrights, and geographical indications. She emphasized how these rights help in recognizing and rewarding the efforts of creators and inventors. The discussion highlighted the importance of understanding IPR in the academic and research context, especially for students and researchers aiming to safeguard their work.

One of the key takeaways from the session was the process of applying for patents and the kind of work that qualifies for patent protection. Prof. Charan also discussed real-life examples and case studies that made the session engaging and easy to understand. Avoiding plagiarism and giving proper credit to sources were also highlighted as vital components of ethical research. Overall, the session was highly informative and provided valuable knowledge that will help participants be more aware of the legal and ethical responsibilities in research.

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PHOTOGRAPHS:



Research Methodology Workshop – Day Report (April 5,2025)

MODE- ONLINE

Resource Person: Prof. Vasiraju Rajyalakshmi, Dept. Of Sociology, JDMC

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The fifth day of the workshop on ‘Research Methodology, Research Ethics, and IPR’ was conducted by Prof. Vasiraju Rajyalakshmi from the Department of Sociology, JDMC. The session focused on the practical aspects of conducting fieldwork in sociology. Our professor emphasized how the choice of research methods depends on the research question, the target group, and the nature of the field area. A key point discussed was the importance of understanding the social positioning of the researcher, especially in terms of caste and gender, as it significantly influences data collection and field experiences.

The discussion highlighted that challenges faced during fieldwork may differ for male and female researchers, and for those from different caste backgrounds. The importance of choosing an appropriate sample size and being mindful of ethical boundaries was also stressed. Prof. Rajyalakshmi shared valuable real-life examples from her own research, which gave us insights into dealing with sensitive topics like HIV and violence against women in marginalized communities.

We also discussed the need for proper training before entering the field to avoid bias, misleading questions, or crossing boundaries with respondents. The session concluded with interactive discussions between students and the professor, making it both insightful and engaging.

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