

Geography, UG, 4th Semester (Hons)

COURSE CODE: GEO-H-CC-10-TH- FIELD WORK AND RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

TOPIC: RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

INTRODUCTION

Research objectives describe concisely what the research is trying to achieve. They summarize the accomplishments a researcher wishes to achieve through the project and provides direction to the study.

1. Research is an organized investigation of a problem in which there is an attempt to gain solution to a problem.
2. To get right solution of a right problem, clearly defined objectives are very important.
3. Clearly defined objectives enlighten the way in which the researcher has to proceed.

MEANING

1. 'A research objective is a clear, concise, declarative statement, which provides direction to investigate the variables
2. Generally research objective focus on the ways to measure the variables, such as to identify or describe them.
3. Sometime objectives are directed towards identifying the relationship or difference between two variables.
4. Research objective are the results sought by the researcher at the end of the research process, i.e. what the researcher will be able to achieve at the end of the research study.
5. The objectives of a research project summarize what is to be achieved by the study.
6. Objective should be closely related to the statement of the problem.

CHARACTERISTICS OF RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

1. Research objectives is a concrete statement describing what the research is trying to achieve. A well-worded objective will be SMART, i.e Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, & Time- bound
2. Research objective should be Relevant, Feasible, Logical, Observable, Unequivocal and Measurable.
3. Objective is a purpose that can be reasonably achieved within the expected timeframe & with the available resources.
4. The objective or research project summarizes what is to be achieved by the study.
5. The research objectives are the specific accomplishment the researchers hope to achieve by the study.
6. The objective includes obtaining answers to research questions or testing the research hypothesis.

NEED OF RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The formulation of research objectives helps the researcher to.....

1. With clearly defined objectives, the researchers can focus on the study.
2. The formulation of research objectives will help researcher to avoid the collection of data which are not strictly necessary for understanding & solving problem that he or she has defined.
3. Properly formulated, specific objectives will facilitate the development of research methodology & will help to orient the collection, analysis, interpretation, & utilization of data.

TYPES OF RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

1. General objective

- General objectives are broad goals to be achieved.
- The general objectives of the study state what the researcher expects to achieve by the study in general terms.
- General objectives are usually less in number.

2. Specific objective

- Specific objectives are short term & narrow in focus.
- General objectives can be broken into small logically connected parts to form specific objectives.
- General objective is met through accomplishing all the specific objectives.
- The specific objectives are more in number & they systematically address various aspects of problem as defined under 'the statement of problem' & key factor that is assumed to influence or cause the problem.
- They should specify what the researcher will do in the study, where, & for what purpose.

EXAMPLES OF GENERAL & SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Research statement: "Effectiveness of planned teaching on the knowledge of staff nurses working in psychiatric unit regarding Physical Restraints for psychiatric patient in selected hospital of Vidharbha region".

General objective: To assess the knowledge of staff nurses working in psychiatric unit regarding physical restraint.

Specific objective:

1. To assess the knowledge regarding Physical Restraints among nurses working in psychiatric unit.
2. To evaluate the effect of planned teaching on Physical Restraints among nurses.
3. To associate the knowledge with selected demographic variables.

METHODS OF STATING OBJECTIVES

While stating objectives of the study, the following guidelines must be taken care of: The objectives should be presented briefly & concisely.

They cover the different aspects of the problem & its contributing factors in a coherent way & in a logical sequence.

The objectives are clearly phrased in operational terms, specifying exactly what researcher is going to do, where, & for what purpose.

They are realistic considering local conditions.

Use action verbs that are specify enough to be evaluated.

Examples of action verbs are: to assess, to identify, to find out, to determine, to compare, to find, to verify, to calculate, to describe, to analyse, to establish, etc.