

Project Manual

M.A in Migration and Diaspora (MAMIDI)

MDIP 001 : Project Work (8 Credits)



**School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi 110068
www.ignou.ac.in**

About IGNOU

The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), established by an Act of Parliament in 1985, has continuously striven to build an inclusive knowledge society through inclusive education. It has tried to increase the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) by offering high-quality teaching through the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode.

Today, it serves the educational aspirations of over 3 million students in India and other countries through 21 Schools of Studies and a network of 67 Regional Centres, around 2,000 Learner Support Centres and 20 overseas institutions. The University offers about 200 certificate, diploma, degree and doctoral programmes, with a strength of nearly 250 faculty members and 230 academic staff at the headquarters and regional centres and over 35,000 academic counsellors from conventional institutions of higher learning, professional organisations, and industry among others.

The University has made a significant mark in the areas of higher education, community education and continual professional development. The University has been networking with reputed public institutions and private enterprises for enhancing the educational opportunities being offered by it. As a world leader in distance education, it has been conferred with awards of excellence by the Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Canada.

The University is committed to quality in teaching, research, training and extension activities, and acts as a national resource centre for expertise and infrastructure in the ODL system. The University has established the National Centre for Disability Studies and National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education, to focus on specific learner groups and enrich the distance learning system.

With the launch of EduSat (a satellite dedicated only to education) on 20th September, 2004, and the establishment of the Inter-University Consortium, the University has ushered in a new era of technology-enabled education in the country. All the regional centres and high enrollment Learners Support have been provided with active two-way video-conferencing network connectivity, which has made it possible to transact interactive digital content.

Emphasis is now being laid on developing interactive multimedia and online learning, and adding value to the traditional distance education delivery mode with modern technology-enabled education within the framework of integrated distance and online learning.

Over the years, IGNOU has lived up to the country's expectations of providing education to the marginalised sections of society. Free of cost education is being provided to all jail inmates across the country. A large number of SC/ST students have been admitted to various programmes of the University, also efforts have been made to reach onto persons working in the Armed and Security Forces of the Country.

School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-Disciplinary Studies

Vision

1. To develop the school as an enabling space to foster interdisciplinary academic studies and research drawing upon theoretical, empirical and methodological resources cutting across disciplinary boundaries.
2. To promote interactive academic co-existence amongst scholars of diverse specializations facilitating convergence of disciplines and transactional mutuality of holistic wisdom.

Mission

1. To develop academic programmes and courses that addresses the complex dynamics of multi-faceted social issues and processes
2. To strengthen the social extension aspect of research and facilitate issue-based production of knowledge through incessant interaction with and participation of people.
3. The School offers various programmes from certificate levels to Ph.D. levels.

Objective of the Programme: To impart skills using social science knowledge in understanding current 'real world' issues related to global human migration, products, ideas and technologies and helping the stakeholders, including policy makers, academicians, students and global agencies.

MDIP 001 : Project Work (8 Credits) Elective

Dear Learner, **MDIP 001: Project Work** (8 Credits). The project work will be of 200 marks.

No academic learning is complete unless accompanied with practical application. Therefore, the purpose of the exercise in this Course is to apply the theoretical and conceptual knowledge acquired in the courses of this Masters programme. This will serve two purposes; one, that the learner will be able to make an informed and matured decision related to global movements of people, products and ideas; two, there will be learner participation in creating course material for the second phase of this programme.

The Programme will help in gaining insight into the current global events that affect us directly and indirectly. The learner will receive mentorship in preparing the project proposal on a topic of his/her choice after receiving the approval of the project work from IGNOU. The learner may also take help of mentors (IGNOU faculty located in its New Delhi campus via e-mail or face-to-face sessions) for completing the project work.

Evaluation Mechanisms of the Programme

In order to evaluate the learners' performance there will be a term-end examination as well as periodic assignments pertaining to all courses except **MDIP 001: Project Work**. Documents submitted by the learners will be evaluated by external examiner(s). All evaluation standards will be in keeping with IGNOU norms and guidelines.

Pedagogy Employed in the Programme

Self-learning course materials in multimedia formats is a core component of the IGNOU system of education. The course materials through timely delivery in off-line and on-line modes will be made available to the students. The concepts and theoretical inputs will be given to learners to make them familiar with the contextual frame of references. This will prepare learners to see through the complexities of the issues related to the subject chosen.

Project Work

The project work will help the students in acquiring fresh information in an organized and systematic way. A project work constitutes a practical component of this programme. You will gain enough theoretical knowledge inputs by going through various courses of this programme. While doing a project, you will be exposed to the field situations and gain insight into the subject. In the project, a planned approach is adopted for collecting data, facts, tabulation of the data and its analyses.

Ideally a project work is undertaken after you gain necessary theoretical and conceptual clarity and an understanding of the subject. The project work will be of 200 marks. Encouragement to be given to topics related to archival work, return migration etc. Suggested topics for project works are given below:

1. Historiography and Archival studies
2. Diaspora Films and Literature
3. Biographical studies
4. Diasporic Poetry
5. Popular Culture
6. New Media and Diaspora (Film, advertisements, Television shows, Blogs and websites, social media platforms etc.)
7. Case Studies on Diaspora Engagement

Steps involved in Project work

Step 1: Selection of topic

The selection of topics is very important. The following factors must be kept in mind while selecting a topic:

- Suitability and relevance of the topic
- Feasibility of the data- collection within' the limited time-frame
- Availability of literature/information on the subject
- Financial feasibility in terms of costs involved

Step 2: Consultation with Supervisor and Project Approval

Before starting your Project work, you are required to get the topic and project proposal approved. You can send the soft copy to: pgdmidi@ignou.ac.in or hard copy to Dr. Sadananda Sahoo, School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies, Block # 15, Indira Gandhi National Open University, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi –110068.

The purpose of the project proposal is to demonstrate that the research you wish to undertake is significant, necessary and feasible, that you will be able to make an original contribution to the field, and that the project can be completed within the normal time period. Some general guidelines and advice on structuring your proposal are provided below. Project proposals should be no longer than 1,200-1500 words (including the reference list/bibliography).

Here are some necessary tools useful for data collection while doing project work

1. Content Analysis

This tool can be used if you prefer doing qualitative research using various sources such as newspaper, websites etc.

For example, researchers can evaluate contents used within a news article to search for diaspora events and activities. Researchers can then make inferences about the messages within the texts, the writer(s), the audience, and even the culture and time when the text was generated.

In this, the researchers can use any sources of data. It could be from interviews, open-ended questions, field research notes, conversations, or literally any occurrence of communicative language (such as books, essays, discussions, newspaper headlines, speeches, media, historical documents). To analyze the text using content analysis, the text must be coded, or broken down, into manageable code categories for analysis (i.e. “codes”). Once the text is coded into code categories, the codes can then be further categorized into “code categories” to summarize data even further.

Advantage and Disadvantage of the Content Analysis

The major advantage of content analysis is that it can reveal patterns or trends which may not have been obvious before the research, or might have been considered an impression gained by a biased or subjective reading.

1. It is relatively easy to gain access
2. It is inexpensive to build a representative sample.
3. It is reliable (usually quantitative) data. It is easy to repeat (“replicate”). Complex forms of social interaction can be quantified using a standardised framework (the content analysis grid) that can be applied across a wide range of media.
4. It can present an objective account of events, themes, issues and so forth that may not be immediately apparent to a reader, viewer or general consumer.
5. It doesn't involve the researcher to interact with the people / things being studied. The researcher cannot, therefore, influence the behaviour of the people being studied.

The disadvantage of content analysis is that the method cannot reveal the reasons for certain patterns of content, or the meanings placed on it. It can merely describe it.

1. Objectivity depends on the researchers' skills, techniques and accurateness of data.
2. Content analysis methods may not go deep into the quality of the interaction among the people.
3. In some cases, it is time-consuming

2. Case Study

A case study is a research strategy that helps us understand phenomena in real-life situations. The case study is an interesting research strategy since it utilizes naturally existing information sources such as people and interactions between people within the scope of the case. Case study provides a systematic and scientific way of perceiving or examining events, collecting data, analyse information, and prepare a report. In the case of migration and diaspora, the learner can choose various cases of migration situations, lives of diasporic communities etc.

Case study research means single and multiple case studies, can include quantitative evidence, relies on multiple sources of evidence and benefits from the prior development of theoretical propositions. Case studies based on any evidence of quantitative and qualitative research. Single subject-research provides the statistical framework for making inferences from quantitative case-study data.

There are four types of Case Studies

1. Illustrative case studies
2. Exploratory case study
3. Cumulative case study
4. Critical instance case studies.

Learner can choose appropriate case study types and strategies to conduct it

There are various steps to conduct the case studies such as:

Step 1: Determining the present status of the case or cases
Step 2: Identifying the most probable antecedents of the case or cases
Step 3 Verification of Antecedents/Hypotheses
Step 4 Diagnosis and Remedial Measures
Step 5 Follow-up of the case or cases. T

There are the different ways to using case study such as

- (1) Writing analysis of case study
- (2) Panel of experts
- (3) Analysis of similar case studies
- (4) Cross examination.

3. Questionnaire

Questionnaire is one of the very useful data collection tools. Questionnaire implies to prepare a set of questions, keeping in mind the objectives of the study in order to seek answers from the sample respondents. As far as possible, questions are to be kept specific. There are normally two types of questions, open ended or close ended. These are also called structured or unstructured.

Questionnaire method of data collection is preferred when the respondents are willing to cooperate. To deploy this method the respondents need to be literate. This type of technique is used in Quantitative research.

4. Interview Schedule

The Interview Schedule refers to a set of questions related to the subject of study, printed or typed in a definite order administered among the respondents by the research investigator in person. It is a device used to collect both qualitative and quantitative information. It is not self-administered, instead answers are obtained from the respondents in a face-to-face situation. The interview schedule is prepared keeping in mind the objectives and hypothesis of the study.

The Schedule method of data collection can be utilised irrespective of the respondent's literacy. The data collected through the interview schedule method is expensive as there is cost involved in preparing the schedule, cost incurred on enumerators in addition to training imparted to them.

The difference between questionnaire and interview schedule is that while a questionnaire implies a form consisting of a series of written or printed multiple choice questions, to be marked by the informants, the interview schedule is a formal conversation between the interviewer and respondent wherein the two participate in the question answer session.

5. Data Analysis and Report Writing

After collecting data, the next step is data analysis and report writing. The data analysis is a very important part of the project work. At times, it involves application of a number of statistical techniques and methods. However, since we intend to only introduce you to the basics of research, we do not expect advanced statistical analysis for this type of project work, unless you are already familiar with statistics

Structure of the Project

- **Title Page**

This should include your name, the degree programme to which you are applying and your thesis proposal title.

- **Topic statement**

This should establish the general subject area you will be working in and how your topic relates to it. Explain briefly why your topic is significant and what contribution your research will make to the field.

- **Research aims and Objectives**

These should set out the specific objectives of your research and if appropriate to your discipline, the main research questions.

- **Review of the literature**

It provides a brief review of the significant literature and current research in your field to place your own proposed research in context and to establish its potential contribution to the field.

- **Study design**

Outline the theoretical approaches taken in your topic and indicate which approach or approaches you propose to use in your research and why you plan to do so.

- **Research methods**

Briefly describe your proposed research methods, including the type of information and sources to be used, the main research methods to be employed, any resources needed and any ethical or safety issues identified.

- **Tentative chapter outline**

You may wish to include a tentative chapter outline if available at this stage.

- **References/Bibliography**

List all publications cited in your proposal using a suitable academic referencing system. For example, APA format that includes:

Journal

Derwing, T. M., Rossiter, M. J., & Munro, M. J. (2002). Teaching native speakers to listen to foreign-accented speech. *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*, 23(4), 245-259.

Book

Thomas, H. K. (2004). *Training strategies for improving listeners' comprehension of foreign-accented speech* (Doctoral dissertation). University of Colorado, Boulder.

Edited Book

Book with Editor as Author: Galley, K. E. (Ed.). (2004). *Global climate change and wildlife in North America*. Bethesda, MD: Wildlife Society.

Website:

United States Environmental Protection Agency. (2007, May 4). Climate Change. Retrieved From the Environmental Protection Agency website: <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange>

Upon completion of the Project work, attach the Research Project along with approval and submit it to the project section online:

Online Submission link: <https://projects.ignou.ac.in/projectjun21/> or hard copy to Dr. Sadananda Sahoo, School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies, Block # 15, Indira Gandhi National Open University, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi –110068.

*: Kindly check it with IGNOU notification as the links changes from time to time

Regarding academic information you may write to the Programme Coordinators:

Dr. Sadananda Sahoo and Prof. Nandini Sinha Kapur

Contact Address: School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi 110068. Phone No: 9818602818
Email: pgdmidi@ignou.ac.in

Course Coordinators:

Dr. Sadananda Sahoo, Prof. Nandini Sinha Kapur and Prof. Shubhangi Vaidya

APPROVAL OF RESEARCH PROJECT

(Note: Approval of Research Project Proposal has to be submitted before beginning to work on the project to the Programme Coordinator to the email: pgdmidi@ignou.ac.in)

I hereby propose that the research project entitled

Write two or three paragraph on the proposed project

Place :
Signature

Date :
Enrolment No.

Sample title pages of the Project work

Project Report

MDIP 001

