

A Study on Research Methodology Training Programme as Perceived by the Post Graduate Social Science Students

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Abstract

The study was undertaken with the objectives of studying the end training programme effectiveness, to find out the overall assessment of the resource persons who handled various sessions and to understand the impact of the training programme after three months as post follow-up assessment. The researchers adopted descriptive research design for the present study. A Sample of 25 students (Post Graduate) was selected from four social science disciplines namely; Social Work, Commerce, Management Studies and History. The findings of the study revealed that a vast majority of the students(84%) expressed a high level of rating with regard to the training programme meeting their expectation, their comfort level in having their doubts clarified (82.4%), the quality of the training material provided (89.6%) and the support & logistics (86.4%) provided to them all throughout the training session. A very high level of rating was revealed by the students pertaining to the parameters on the duration (97.3%) & time given for each training session(97.3%), the food that was provided for the students who underwent the training programme (93.6%) and the hospitality rendered by supportive staff all throughout the training programme (93.6). It is found that a vast majority (92.8%) of the students were satisfied with the overall effectiveness of the training programme. The result of the overall assessment of the resource persons who handled various sessions revealed that they were effective (89.4%) in delivering their inputs. The Post follow-up that was collected from the students who attended the training programme after a period of three months revealed that a vast majority (85.6%) of the students acknowledged that they found the training programme to be of high value and satisfaction.

Keywords: Research Methodology, Post follow up

1. Introduction

Social Science research is a systematic method of exploring, analyzing, and conceptualizing human life in order to extend, correct or verify the knowledge of human behavior and social life. In other words, social science research seeks to find explanations to unexplained social phenomena, to clarify doubts and correct the misconceived facts of social life. Training on Research Methodology will help the researcher to enhance the scientific attitude and the accurate presentation of the facts. In this context a scientific assessment was carried out on the effectiveness of the training programme organized for the social science Post Graduate students on the theme Research Methodology.

2. Significance of the study

Nowadays, research studies are gaining an unprecedented focus and attention. Research is important because it gives direction to deal with a specific. Research has now become mandatory in postgraduate disciplines in all reputed colleges and universities all over India. The theoretical inputs acquired by the researcher have a definite impetus on the application. A researchable area in any academic discipline is an area that has an ample scope to be explored.

2.1.1. Aim

The main aim of this study was to find out the Effectiveness of Research Methodology Training Programme as perceived by the Post Graduate Social Science Students represent from the departments namely; Social Work, Commerce, Management Studies and History.

2.1.2. Objectives of the study

- ❖ To study the end training programme effectiveness
- ❖ To find out the overall assessment of the resource persons who handled various sessions.
- ❖ To understand the impact of the training programme after three months as post follow-up assessment.

2.1.3. Research Design

The researchers adopted descriptive research design for the present study.

2.1.4. Universe

The universe for the present study comprises of 235 students pursuing final year Post Graduate programme in Social Work, History, Commerce and Management Studies.

2.1.5. Sampling

The researchers adopted stratified disproportionate random sampling method for selecting the sample of 25 students from the universe.

2.1.6. Selection of the Sample

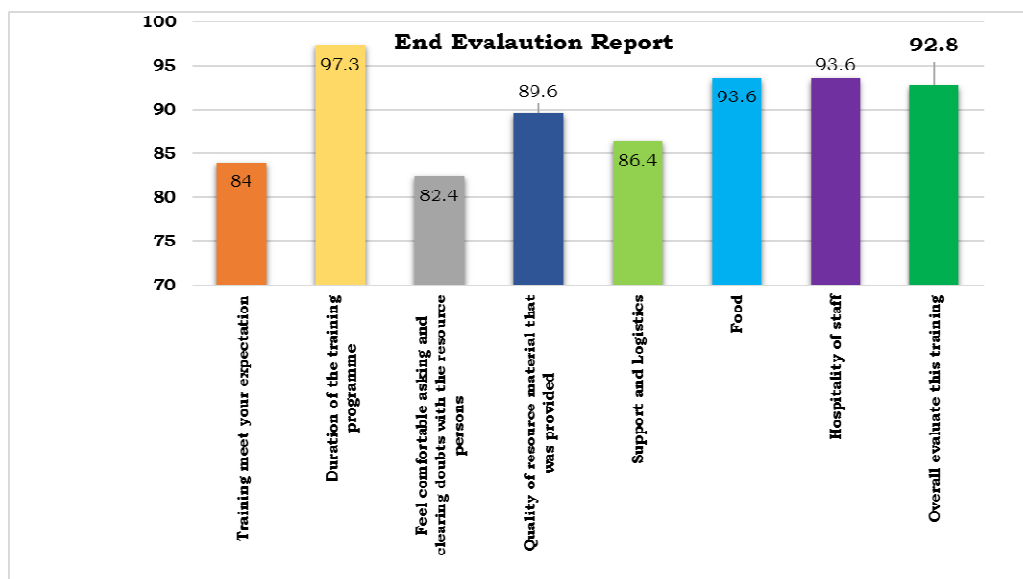
S. No	Departments	Size of Universe	Sample Selected
1.	Social Work	51	08
2.	History	03	03
3.	Commerce	56	04
4.	Management Studies	125	10

2.1.7. Tools of Data Collection

A self-structured questionnaire comprising of the following dimensions namely, Training met your expectation, Duration of the training programme, Feel comfortable asking and clearing doubts with the resource persons, Quality of resource material that was provided, Support and Logistics, Food, Hospitality of staff, Overall evaluation of the training programme were developed by the authors using Likert type scale. The content validity was established by the experts and the Alpha Cronbach reliability of the tool is found to be 0.898.

End of Training Evaluation				
Sl. No	Parameters	Total	Average	Percentage (%)
		Respondents	Mean Score	Score/100
1	Training met your expectation	25	3.32	84.0
2	Duration of the training programme	25	2.92	97.3
3	Feel comfortable asking and clearing doubts with the resource persons	25	4.12	82.4
4	Quality of resource material that was provided	25	4.48	89.6
5	Support and Logistics	25	4.32	86.4
6	Food	25	4.68	93.6
7	Hospitality of staff	25	4.68	93.6
8	Overall evaluation on this training programme	25	4.64	92.8

Table: 1 End Training Evaluation



Bar Chart: 1 End Training Programme Evaluation

2.1.8. Parameters

The data presented in the above table and bar chart represent the students perception on End Training Evaluation. The respondents feedback based on the presented parameters stated that a vast majority of the students expressed a high level of rating with regard to the programme meeting their expectation, their comfort level in having their doubts clarified, the quality of the training material provided and the support & logistics provided to them all throughout the training session. A very high level of rating was revealed by the students pertaining to the

parameters on the duration & time given for each training session, the food that was provided for the respondents undertaking the training programme and the hospitality rendered by each trainer/staff all throughout the training programme. Based on the aforesaid table and graph it is denoted that a very vast majority (92.8%) of the students found the overall effectiveness of the training programme on Research Methodology.

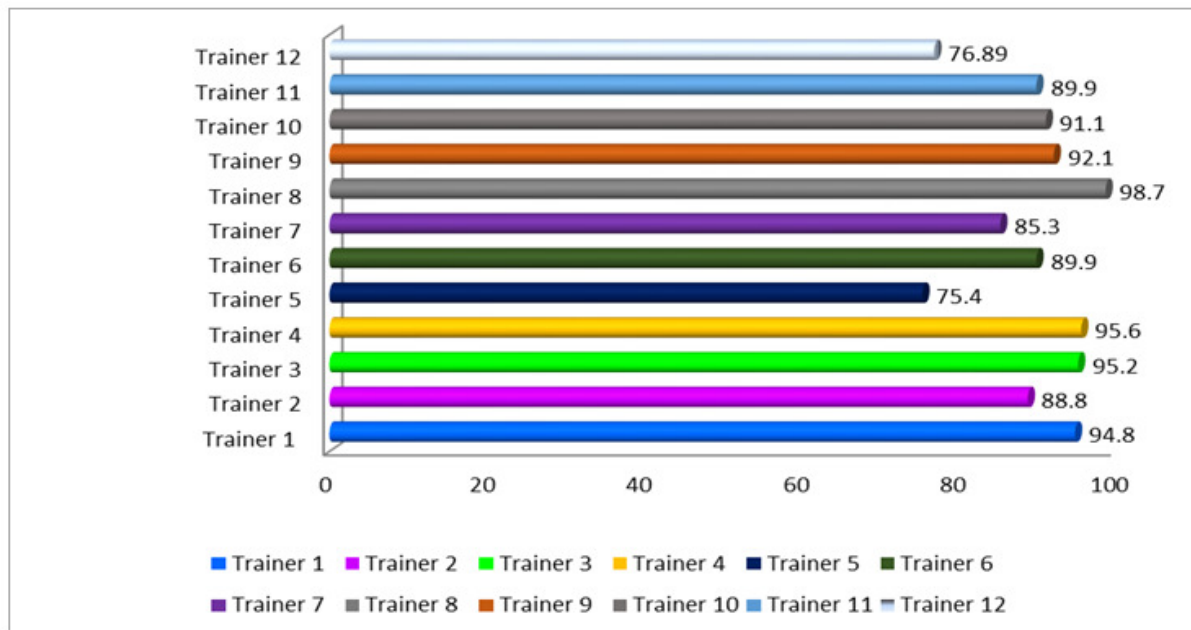
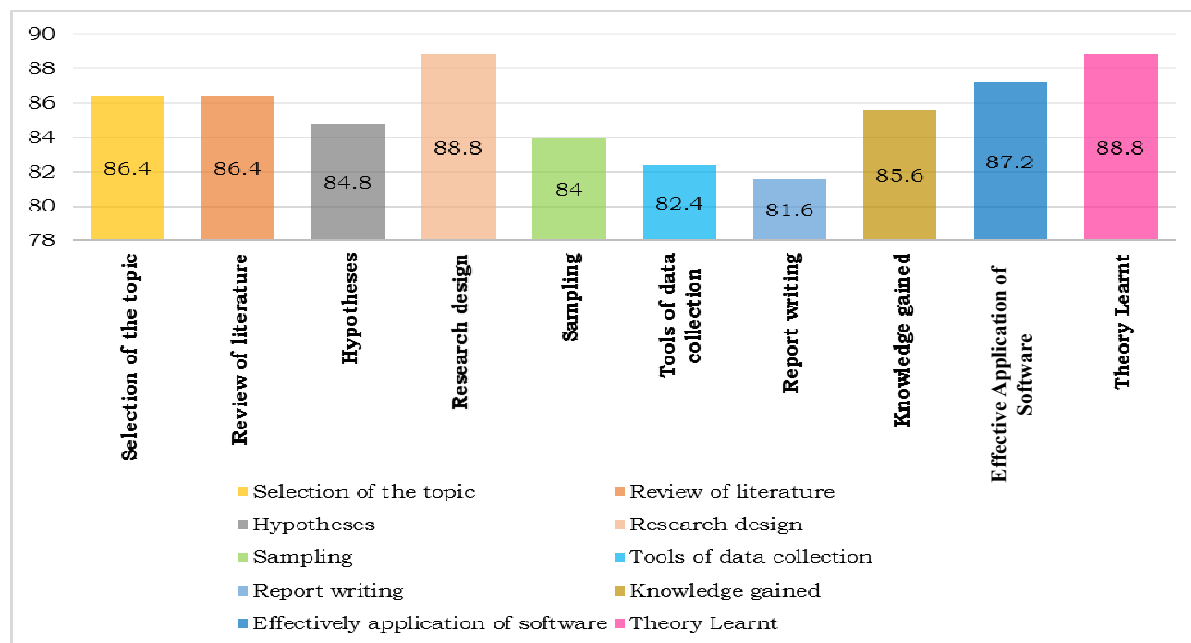


Table 2 Overall Assessment of the Resource Person

The charts depict the various parameters on which the resource personnel/trainers were systematically evaluated by the respondents of the training programme. The findings highlight their standard and effectiveness of the various training sessions handled by them in reflection to their subject expertise. The parameters depicted are based on the content of the training programme, the clarity in which the trainer explained various concepts, the effectiveness of the trainer in reaching the level of the students, the duration of each session that was undertaken and the satisfaction of the students with regard to each trainer handling different core concepts in the field of research.

Sl.No	Parameters	Score					Total Respondents	Average Mean Score	Percentage Score/100
		Highest ←		→ Lowest					
1	Selection of the topic	10	13	2	0	0	25	4.32	86.4
2	Review of literature	12	9	4	0	0	25	4.32	86.4
3	Hypotheses	13	6	5	1	0	25	4.24	84.8
4	Research design	14	8	3	0	0	25	4.44	88.8
5	Sampling	15	5	2	1	0	25	4.20	84.0
6	Tools of data collection	11	10	2	2	0	25	4.12	82.4
7	Report writing	11	8	4	1	1	25	4.08	81.6
8	Knowledge gained	13	8	2	2	0	25	4.28	85.6
9	Effective application of software	13	9	2	1	0	25	4.36	87.2
10	Theory Learnt	16	5	3	1	0	25	4.44	88.8
Overall Rating & Effectiveness								4.28	85.6

Table: 3 Post Follow-Up



Bar Chart 2: Post Follow-Up

The table and the graph depict the follow-up that was collected from the students who attended the training programme on “Research Methodology Training Programme” after a period of three months. This ideal initiative was taken to check the level of practicality and sustainability of concepts taught in class to the students. This systematic approach was undertaken to check if the students were able to put theory to practice in research. The findings from the above table and the graph denote that a vast majority of the students portrayed a high significant rating based on the parameters that were taught to them which included the capability of the student participants to appropriately select his/her research topic, the use of reviews, the mechanism of formulating hypotheses, the applicability of administrating the right research design and the methodological selection of samples.

It is also inferred that a vast majority of the students denoted a high level of feedback pertaining to their ability in choosing the apt tools needed for them in collecting data, the fluidity in writing a well presented research report, the significance of knowledge that they had acquired, the practical use of research software and their ability to put theory to practice. The overall rating and effectiveness of the programme revealed a significant high rating with 85.6 percent of the respondents acclaiming that they found the training programme to be of high value and satisfaction.

3. Salient findings

- ❖ Majority of the respondents (84%) expressed a high level of rating with regard to the training programme meeting their expectation.
- ❖ Majority of the respondents (82.4%) expressed their comfort level in having their doubts clarified.
- ❖ Majority of the respondents (89.6%) were satisfied with the quality of the training material provided.
- ❖ Majority of the respondents (86.4%) were satisfied with the support and logistics provided to them all throughout the training session.
- ❖ Vast Majority of the respondents (97.3%) were satisfied the parameters on the duration and time given for each training session.
- ❖ Majority of the respondents (93.6%) were satisfied with the food that was provided for the students who underwent the training programme.
- ❖ Majority of the respondents (93.6) the hospitality rendered by supportive staff all throughout the training programme.
- ❖ A very vast majority of the respondents (92.8%) were satisfied with the overall effectiveness of the training programme.
- ❖ Majority of the respondents (89.4%) were satisfied with the result of the overall assessment of the resource persons who handled the various sessions revealed that they were effective in delivering their inputs.
- ❖ The Post follow-up that was collected from the students who attended the training programme after a period of three months revealed that a vast majority (85.6%) of the students acknowledged that they found the training programme to be of high value and satisfaction.

5. Conclusion

The overall effectiveness of the Research Methodology Training Programme in relation to End of Training Evaluation assessment of resource person and the post follow-up assessment as perceived by the Post Graduate Students of Social Science disciplines were found to be positive and effective.

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