



Department of Psychology

Panjab University, Chandigarh

Chairperson
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Project Guidelines for MA Psychology (4th Semester) w.e.f. January, 2023:

The students of psychology are doing practical in psychology since their graduation onwards but their research exposure is almost zero because research component is completely missing. So it has been unanimously decided in JAAC to add the project work in place of Practical in 4th semester of 50 marks and it is to be reflected in the **Detail Marks Card** of the respective students.

Therefore, following are the guidelines pertaining to the Project work as proposed:

TIME PERSPECTIVE

The Project work will commence from **2nd week of the onset of Semester-IV**. The students are to get the consent of the faculties under whom they like to do project work in the respective field/area.

The final report must be submitted by **2nd week of April**.

Supervisor's role

The student is entitled to supervision in all phases of the project/dissertation work. The supervisor shall give advice, opinions and feedback enabling the student to write a project/dissertation by reaching an acceptable standard. During supervision the student must present/consult the written project descriptions and drafts at regular intervals for the supervisor to provide feedback on.

TYPES OF Project

1. Theoretical Project

A limited psychological problem is researched through literary studies. Theory, discussion and interpretation of research results are required. Theoretical theses can also be of purely analytical nature and focus on basic understanding of different psychological phenomena. The work shall lead to specific conclusions, theory assessment, concepts, and suggestions on how psychological research or experiments can be carried out in order to answer essential research questions. A theoretical thesis requires an explanation of the literature selected.



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2. Experimental research

A limited psychological problem is researched through one or more experiments. There is an emphasis on good experimental design and methods that operationalise the psychological concepts in a valid and reliable way. The number of research subjects must be adjusted to the resources and time frame for the master's theses.

3. Non-experimental research

Surveys of large populations to selected groups and the data is usually the answers from the questionnaires, but can also include registry studies. Data can be gathered at a given point in time or by following the same individuals over time. Usually, a quantitative approach to the data is used. Answers to open questions are categorized and quantified, but they can also be analyzed qualitatively and presented as text.

4. Quantitative project/dissertation:

The students are to carry qualitative research work based on primary data. Data can be collected through psychological questionnaire/scales, interviews, and observation etc. It is expected that the student sheds light on the question of reliability and validity in the choice of methods connected to the research questions.

F) Guidelines On The Form And Design Of The Project Work

- **Form: The project work will be typed on A4 size paper single side print only.**

Writing alone or together:

All the students are to submit their individual project work and it should not be a joint venture of any kind.

- **Referencing;**

For reference writing, APA (recent edition) is the standard when writing master's project in the Department of Psychology.

- **Page number and font:**

Students are to submit their project report within the range of **70-100 pages** including of abstract and references.



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The number of pages may vary according to the type of project report:

The project report must be written on A4 size paper, using **Times New Roman 12 font** with Times New Roman **14 for headings/titles** etc. **In-line space-1.5**

➤ **Title page:**

The following needs to be included: Name of supervisor and student, title, “submitted as master's project work in the Department of Psychology, Panjab University Chandigarh or respective college (with Logo), semester and year.

➤ **Abstract**

The dissertation must have an abstract of **UP TO 300-500 WORDS**. This should be placed after the title page and before the table of contents. The abstract should have the same standard as the rest of the thesis with regards to font, paragraph and margin.

QUALITY CRITERIA

The master's project work is a scientific work that aims to fulfill the criteria with regards to documentation and reports that are applicable within the research field that the master's project work is written on.

Therefore, all the students are to submit plagiarism report (acceptable up to 20%) along with their project report work.

➤ **Submission:**

All the students will submit their project report work in hard binding with single side page printing on A4 size. The color of the title page of the **project report will be SKY BLUE color**.

➤ **Assessment/examination:**

Initial assessment/examination will be done by respective supervisor and final assessment/examination will be done with the help of external expert of psychology (not below the level of Professor of university) at the end of the semester. The Viva-Voce will be of 50 marks to be conducted by external expert only.