Course Title: Dissertation 1

Course code: MPL 103	**No. of credits: 2**	**L-T-P:** 0-30-0	**Learning hours: 30**

Pre-requisite course code and title (if any): None

Department: Centre for Post Graduate Legal Studies

Course coordinator: LL.M Programme Coordinator	**Course instructor:** Dissertation Supervisor

Contact details: Program.llm@terisas.ac.in

Course type: Core	**Course offered in:** Semester 1

Course description:

This course aim at involving the students in an independent research study under the guidance of a faculty member on a specific area of law. The students are expected to identify the research gaps in the area, based on their reading and analysis of relevant 'primary' and 'secondary' sources of law and interpreting them in a multidisciplinary context. A historical study may also be undertaken if it can guide answering the research gaps existing in the present. A comparative study or an impact assessment study may also be used wherever appropriate. Based on the review of literature in the area, the student shall write a 'research proposal'. The 'research proposal' shall provide persuasive evidence that establishes a need for the proposed study, identify the research objectives, and formulate the research questions, describe a detailed methodology that will be adopted for the study. The 'research proposal' shall also follow a recognised legal citation system and shall also include a bibliography.

Course objectives:

1. Develop the skill of designing a comprehensive research study
2. Learn to carry out a comprehensive review of the literature, identify research gaps in the area of study and develop clarity about the objectives of the proposed research
3. Understand the logical steps that must be followed to accomplish the proposed research and accordingly learn to identify the research problems, formulate research questions and hypothesis,
4. Understand the use and shortcomings of different research methods of study,
5. Understand the importance of using a recognised citation format, and learn to use it uniformly

Course contents

S.No.	Topic	L	T	P
1	Identification of the research area and preparation of the review of literature	0	10	0
2	Defining the objectives of the proposed research, identification of research gap, and formulation of research questions and hypothesis.	0	08	0
3	Drafting of 'Research Proposal'	0	10	0
	Total	0	28	0

Evaluation criteria:

1. Attendance for Tutorials (to be marked by the Supervisor): 10
2. Monthly Presentation before the faculty panel (aggregate of marks awarded by all supervising faculty members present): 30
3. Evaluation of Research Proposal (aggregate of the marks awarded by the Supervisor and an external examiner): 40%
4. Final Presentation (aggregate of marks awarded by all supervising faculty members present):20%

Learning outcomes:

On completion of this course, the students would be able to:

1. Identify the research gaps, and
2. Conduct a review of the literature
3. Structure and design a research proposal
4. Learn about different research methods
5. Use a recognised legal citation style
6. Undertake a critical study of on a legal issue.

Pedagogical approach

The supervisors shall be available for consultation on the designated tutorial hours (to be scheduled in the timetable). The Supervisor shall interact, guide, supervise and monitor the progress of the work of each student during these hours. The Supervisor may also seek and consider the opinion of experts in the specific area of law under research. Apart from this, students are expected to present their progress before
a 'faculty panel' comprising of all supervisors and other students every month.

Reading Material:

1) All readings enlisted under the LLM course MPL 173
2) All research publications relevant to the topic shall be studied by the student

Student responsibilities:

1. To attend the tutorial sessions offered by their Supervisor as scheduled in the timetable and perform all assigned tasks
2. To attend and actively participate in the monthly dissertation seminars before the 'faculty panel.'
3. Strictly comply with time schedules

Course reviewers:

1) Dr Deepa Kansra, Assistant Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi
2) Dr Zubair Khan, Assistant Professor, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Delhi