Emerging Trends in Research Methodology in Higher Education

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Abstract:

Research methodology is the crucial component of Higher Education. Considering its tremendous significance, the emerging trends are upcoming in order to enhance the quality of research methodology as it creates significant impact in higher education. Therefore more emphasis is taken on research methodology. The future of research methodology can be shaped through the incorporation of mixed methods, the application of big data analytics, artificial intelligence, the advancement of reproducibility and open science and the acceptance of participatory and ethnographic methods. The role of new research methodologies, contexts and technologies play a fundamental role in higher education.

The objective of the present research is to address the developing tendencies in research methodology in higher education systems especially modernizations in erudition, new education frameworks and didactic approaches. It also focuses on the several protuberant factors in higher education such as scientific expansion, digital higher education and experimental studies in higher education. Current trends in academic research deals with consciousness of moral deliberations and their influence on society. There are several challenges with respect to research such as imitation of the text, interdisciplinary research, data confidentiality, research truthfulness, communal insinuations of emerging technologies such as biotechnology and Artificial Intelligence.

Index Terms: *Emerging trends, research methodology,research integrity,innovations, technological developments, higher education*

1.0 Introduction:

Research means to search the things again and again which are already in existence. It is carried out for finding out the truth. The term 'research methodology' refers the research methods and the purpose behind the methods which we employ in research. Research Methodology in a real sense is the product of original text and context. The current research environment is enriched with technological development, digital higher education and empirical studies in higher education. Academic research consists of technological development, digital higher education and empirical studies in higher education.

a. Technological Developments: mobile technology, virtual environments, augmented reality, automation etc.

b. Digital Higher Education: eLearning, Game-based Learning, social media in education, new learning models and technologies for education.

c. Empirical Studies in Higher Education: Digital technologies, Digital Learning, new methodologies, perceptions of new learning processes and new evaluation techniques.

2.0 Aims and Objectives:

The aims and objectives of the present research are as follows.

1. To define academic research
2. To highlight correlation between research methodology and research integrity
3. To investigate emerging trends in research methodology in higher education
4. To substantiate the terms such as technological developments, digital learning and empirical studies in higher education

3.0 Research Methodology:

The researcher has employed qualitative approaches and close reading of the texts related to

the thematic concern of the academic research. This helps to figure out the emerging trends in research methodology in higher education. Reading a text helps to interpret or understand several thematic aspects of the research. It also helps to generate textual and numerical evidences from texts at large scale so that comprehensive information about academic research and its integration with technological advancement can be visualized and put before the readers extensively. Therefore the researcher has interpreted the research texts for gaining better insight.

4.0 Literature Review:

Literature review is the substantial characteristic which analyses the former researcher's perceptions on the supposed topic. Here the researcher has portrayed the emerging trends in research methodology in higher education. He has proved the facts wherever necessary. This literary review is projected in the bibliographical part.

5.0 Discussions

Emerging Trends in Research Methodology in Higher Education:

1. **Online Research Methods:**

Researchers take the assistance of internet sources, browse the information and collect data through interviews, questionnaires, experiments and online focus groups. Online research methods comprise polls, focus groups, surveys and analyzing data from the internet. These methods can be used for market research, psychological studies etc. Online surveys use tools like Google Forms to collect data from people. Online polls use tools to collect data from people. Online focus groups employ online chat spaces to facilitate discussions between a small groups of people. Online interviews use video calls to conduct interviews or group discussions. Online discussion forums use social media platforms like Facebook to facilitate discussions. Analyzing data from the internet analyzes websites, blogs, or articles related to a specific topic.

2. **Research Development:**

Research and development is a progression that involves exploring, investigating, and modernizing to generate new products, processes or technologies. It's an appreciated apparatus for businesses to propagate and advance their products and services. In order to develop research culture and to promote research excellence, various academic institutions such as colleges and universities are offering research development assistance to the learners and research scholars. The research can be developed through following ways. Fundamental Research is investigative and hypothetical. It aims to determine new truths or principles. Applied research uses the conclusions of basic research to generate new applications for prevailing information. It is used in many fields, including business, medicine, and education. Experimental development involves producing new products, processes, or services through practical presentation and analysis.

3. **Mixed Methods and Interdisciplinary Approaches:**

Researchers are using an amalgamation of quantitative (quantifiers) and qualitative methods (descriptive data) to study the scholastic research. Qualitative data involves data collection through observations, interviews, document analysis, and analyzing participant products. Quantitative data comprises with numerical data and involves applying statistics to find relationships between variables.

Mixed Method:

It refers to a research tactic where both quantitative (arithmetical) and qualitative (evocative) data are collected and investigated within the same study. It focuses on conjoining diverse data types within a single study. Data assortment is carried out in mixed method. Researchers accumulates both quantitative (e.g., surveys, statistics) and qualitative data (e.g., interviews, observations). Data integration is the soul of mixed method. Different methods are used to examine and assimilate the data, often aiming to offer a better-off understanding of the phenomenon under education. A comparison of qualitative and quantitative approaches are given priority. A common mixed methods technique where findings from quantitative and qualitative data are compared to strengthen the validity of the results.

Interdisciplinary Approaches:

It involves portraying acquaintance and standpoints from manifold speculative disciplines to

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expansively scrutinize a topic, often assimilating procedures from each arena to achieve a deeper consideration. They combine knowledge from different academic areas to tackle a research question. Cross-disciplinary collaboration is essential. Researchers from disparate speculative arenas work together to discourse a research question. Amalgamation of knowledge is taken on priority basis. The prime objective is to conglomerate insights from numerous disciplines to generate a more inclusive understanding of a multifaceted issue. Methodological flexibility is adopted by the researchers and they develop assorted research methods depending on the specific needs of the study, drawing from diverse disciplines. They combine complex research interrogations. When investigating intricate phenomena that necessitate both quantitative and qualitative data, researchers can use a mixed methods method while drawing on intuitions from numerous disciplines through an interdisciplinary lens. Legal conclusions are possible and qualitative data can be used to elucidate patterns originated in quantitative data, and vice versa, augmenting the inclusive rationality of the research discoveries. Holistic perspectives are taken into account. By integrating viewpoints from various disciplines, researchers can advance a wider understanding of the matter under exploration.

4. Participatory and Action-Oriented Research:

It refers to a research methodology where the people unswervingly affected by a problem are actively involved in all stages of the research procedures, from recognizing the issue to scheming explanations, collecting data, investigating results, and instigating fluctuations, with the primary objective of not just attainment of knowledge but also taking accomplishment to discourse the problem within the community. This approach emphasizes the participants as co-researchers, subsidizing their insights and perspectives throughout the process. The principal objective is to not just appreciate a difficulty but to dynamically take effort towards positive social change within the community being studied. By actively participating in research, community members achieve a sagacity of intervention and possession over the procedure, leading to promising empowerment. Researchers

and participants work together to design research questions, select suitable methods, and construe verdicts. Researchers energetically participate with the community while witnessing their practices and undercurrents. Graphic representations are created to recognize key questions and possessions of the community.

5. Digital Tools and Platforms:

Digital tools and platforms refer to online applications, softwares and websites that enable users to accomplish various responsibilities digitally, including communication, collaboration, data analysis, content creation, project management and marketing. The examples of digital tools can be HubSpot, Google Trends, Google Analytics, Google Ads, Canva, Trello, Hootsuite, Mailchimp etc. These tools can be used for tasks like content creation, project planning, email marketing, website analytics, social media management, SEO optimization, project planning and data visualization. Most digital tools are accessible online through web browsers or mobile apps, allowing users to access them from anywhere with an internet connection. Many digital tools can be integrated with other platforms to modernize workflows and share data across dissimilar applications.

6. Reflexity and Self -Cognizance:

Reflexivity refers to the dynamic process of self-examination, where an individual judgmentally analyzes their own philosophies, expectations, and performances, fundamentally becoming conscious of how their own perception might encourage their actions and clarifications. Self-cognizance encompasses the understanding of one's own thoughts, sentiments, and enthusiasms, including both sensible and cataleptic aspects. Reflexivity is a key instrument to promote and excavate self-awareness. Reflexivity is a rehearsal that actively promotes self-awareness by encouraging individuals to unfavorably scrutinize their own favoritisms and perceptions. In research contexts, reflexivity means a researcher recognizing how their own experience, morals, and practices might influence the research process, data interpretation, and findings. Self-reflection is a module of reflexivity. It goes beyond thinking about one's actions. It involves questioning why these actions occur and how they are designed

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by personal and communal contexts. By recognizing personal predispositions, individuals can make more knowledgeable pronouncements and understandings. Greater self-awareness leads to enhanced understanding of others' perspectives and more effective communication. Regularly engaging in self-reflection can simplify personal development by recognizing areas for improvement.

7. Innovation and Creativity:

Creativity and innovation are important abilities that can assist people to become more industrious and reasonable. Creativity is the process of creating new concepts. It is the ability to come up with new ideas, potentials, and imaginations. Innovation is the process of putting those thoughts into exercise. It is the process of introducing new and effective products or services to the market. Disruptive innovation makes a product or service more accessible or affordable, which can significantly impact the market. Creativity and Innovation can be improved by: practicing imaginations, make time for creative thinking, ask clever questions about existing objects, bounce ideas off others, and learn to pitch ideas. Through creativity and innovation one can help people be more productive and competitive, solve problems, think outside the box and inspire others.

8. Lifelong Learning and Collaboration:

It refers to the notion of incessantly erudition and developing throughout one's life, while actively engaging with others to share acquaintance, thoughts and experiences. Therefore enhancing the learning process for everyone is involved. We can seek out new evidences and skills by working together with others to attain shared goals. When individuals cooperate while learning, they can influence each other's powers, fill information fissures, and achieve assorted perceptions, leading to a comfortable knowledge experience for all participants. Cooperation can happen in various settings, including recognized education programs, online groups, specialized networks, or unintentional communal communications, enabling lifelong learning across diverse circumstances. Collaboration encourages energetic contribution, where individuals are enthusiastically involved in the learning process by discoursing, interrogating and contributing their specific awareness. Collective education environments frequently comprise confronting multifaceted problems together, encouraging acute thinking, inventiveness, and advanced solutions. Participating in online communities where individuals share familiarity and intuitions on various subjects. Attending workshops with colleagues where contributors can acquire new skills and share best practices. Combining practiced authorities with beginners to offer guidance and sustenance for unremitting erudition. Working collaboratively on projects within a team to achieve a common goal, facilitating learning through hands-on experience. In today's rapidly evolving world, lifelong learning allows individuals to stay current and adapt to new technologies and challenges. Collaborating with diverse perspectives can spark new ideas and lead to creative solutions. Continuous learning and association can enhance livelihood opportunities and augment specialized abilities. Engaging in concerted knowledge involvements can substitute individual growth by indorsing communication, headship, and coordination skills.

9. Strategic Intuition:

Strategic intuition is a technique for generating imaginative ideas by combining coherent philosophy and thoughts. It is based on creative insights, rational thinking, anticipating patterns and accumulated experience, knowledge and feelings.

10. Correlation Theory:

Correlation theory is the revision of how two or more variables are related to each other. It is used to designate the power of the relationship between variables, and can be represented by a number called the correlation coefficient. This correlation may be positive, negative or neutral.

11. Convolution Theory:

Researchers are employing innovative skills and new research methodologies to make their research strategy more diverse and up to date.

1. Leverage Technology:

Leveraging technology is the rehearsal of using expertise to develop competence, enhance operations, and upsurge revenue. It can be used in businesses, schools, and human resources. Technology is used to automate repetitive tasks and to scrutinize statistics in real time to make better conclusions. It is also used to increase the security of your network. Alliance apps

are employed to progress communication and relationship. Artificial Intelligence, Video Conferencing and Social media are used as a part of leverage technology.

2. Critical Race Theory:

Researchers spend their time on developing critical race theory approaches to quantitative methods. CRT studies the association between race, civilization, law and the media. It also examines how racism is entrenched in regulations. Race is a communal construct and it is universal. Laws and institutions generate and continue social, economic, and political dissimilarities between races. Different forms of disparities such as race, class, masculinity and disability are interrelated.

Conclusion:

Thus the researcher has attempted to highlight the modern or emerging trends in higher education such as: online research methods, research development, mixed methods and interdisciplinary approaches, participatory and action oriented research, digital tools and platforms, Reflexity and self-cognizance, Innovation and creativity, lifelong learning and collaboration, strategic intuition, correlation theory, convolution theory, critical race theory and leverage technology. The effective implementation of these trends will help to enhance the quality of academic research.

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