



St. Vincent College
(Affiliated to Savtribai Phule Pune University)
Pune -411037

Title of the Event	Research Guidance Workshop titled “Building Foundations for Academic Research: A Workshop for M.Com Students”		
Date of the Event	22nd March 2025	Place of the event	St. Vincent College
Objectives of the Event	The workshop aimed to introduce M.Com students to the fundamentals of academic research, guide them in developing viable research proposals, and strengthen their understanding of research methodology, ethical practices, and scholarly writing relevant to commerce and finance.		
Name/s of the Resource Persons	Dr. Gilbi John		
A short narration of the program			
Research Guidance Workshop titled “Building Foundations for Academic Research: A Workshop for M.Com Students”			
On 22nd March 2025, St. Vincent College, Pune, organized a highly informative and practice-oriented Research Guidance Workshop titled “Building Foundations for Academic Research: A Workshop for M.Com Students”, conducted by Dr. Gilbi John, Assistant Professor in the Department of Commerce. The workshop was specifically designed for postgraduate students of the M.Com program and aimed to equip them with essential research skills necessary for their dissertation work, academic development, and future professional pursuits. The session commenced by Dr. Gilbi John delivering a comprehensive and interactive presentation covering the fundamental aspects of scholarly research. he began by elucidating the importance of research in higher education, highlighting how systematic inquiry not only deepens subject understanding but also cultivates critical thinking, problem-solving abilities, and evidence-based decision-making—skills highly valued in both academia and industry. Dr. John walked students through the step-by-step research process, including topic selection, formulation of research questions and objectives, literature review strategies, research design (qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods), data collection techniques, ethical considerations, and academic writing conventions. Special emphasis was placed on aligning research topics with current trends in commerce and finance—			



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such as digital banking, GST compliance, sustainable accounting practices, and fintech innovations—ensuring relevance and practical applicability.

A significant portion of the workshop was dedicated to hands-on guidance on structuring a research proposal, with Dr. John sharing templates, evaluation rubrics, and examples of well-executed student projects from previous years. He also introduced students to credible academic databases (such as JSTOR, SSRN, and UGC-CARE listed journals) and demonstrated effective search strategies to locate peer-reviewed literature. Additionally, he addressed common challenges faced by novice researchers—such as scope creep, data limitations, and time management—and offered practical solutions.

The interactive format encouraged active participation, with students raising questions about statistical tools, sample size determination, and plagiarism avoidance. Dr. John clarified these concerns with patience and precision, reinforcing the importance of originality, academic integrity, and methodological rigor. By the end of the session, students were able to draft preliminary outlines of their research topics and received personalized feedback during a dedicated consultation window.

The workshop proved immensely beneficial for the M.Com cohort, many of whom are at the initial stage of their dissertation journey. It not only demystified the research process but also boosted their confidence to undertake independent academic inquiry. Students reported gaining clarity on how to transform a broad interest into a focused, researchable question and how to approach faculty mentors with well-structured proposals.

Beyond immediate academic utility, the session contributed to the broader institutional goal of nurturing a research-conscious student community. It laid a strong foundation for high-quality dissertation submissions, potential publication opportunities, and participation in inter-collegiate research symposia. The event exemplified St. Vincent College's dedication to integrating skill-based, learner-centered pedagogy into postgraduate education—thereby enhancing the overall quality of teaching, learning, and scholarly output in alignment with contemporary academic standards.

Name of the
Collaborating
Agency

St. Vincent College



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Learning Outcomes of the Event for the Participants	Students gained practical knowledge of the end-to-end research process—from topic selection to proposal structuring—and developed critical skills in literature review, data collection, and academic integrity. They also acquired confidence to initiate their dissertation work with clarity and methodological awareness.
Learning Outcomes for the Organizing team	The organizing team enhanced their capacity to design and deliver discipline-specific academic development programs. They also reinforced collaboration with faculty experts to support student research, contributing to a stronger culture of inquiry and scholarly excellence within the department.
No. of Participants	Students of M.Com
Faculty in Charge	Dr.Gilbi John
Documents Attached	1. Attendance Sheet 2. Geotag photographs 3. Resume of resource persons if any 4. Copy of remuneration paid if any 5. Notice of the event 6. Thank you letter to the resource persons