

RESEARCH: TOWARDS A CROSS DISCIPLINARY APPROACH

Dr. Victor Emokiniovo Aganbi, Esq.

*Senior Lecturer, Communications & Media Studies,
Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti.*

Corresponding Email: aganbi3@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

Research is a process of discovering the nature and pattern of relationships that exist among diverse phenomena that permits prediction and control. Finding the uniformities underlying these phenomena and integrating them into a defined structure is a tenuous and complicated effort. This is made more complex with the prevalence of mixed tools, types, and methods applicable to different disciplines. Thus, selection and adopting a suitable research method for carrying out a given research can frustrate the realization of the aims and objectives of the endeavor. This study examines the nature of this challenge in the researchers' attempt to understand the various research approaches applicable to different disciplines, identifying the tools, types and methods deployed in various contexts. Research involves integrated processes commencing with the identification of a researchable problem that dovetails into writing of the report. This highlights the doctrinal approach, from the legal disciplines, which places reliance on secondary sources such as research textbooks, journal articles, online materials amongst others. This research explores a mixed bag, pluralist approach. The objective is that the multi-disciplinary approach to research and research writing will become the template for integrated research. This paper concludes that the type of research determines the method, type and ultimately determines the type and method used in the analysis and presentation of data.

Keywords: Research, Systematicness, Type, Method.

Introduction

Generally, the word 'method' means a mode of organising, operating or performing something to achieve a goal.¹ Similarly, a method refers to a particular procedure for accomplishing or approaching something.² The method used must be the particular procedure most suited for achieving among others the research aims and objective as well as securing consensus among professional colleagues. Research is an academic activity that involves integrated but systemic step by step procedures. Thus research is a systematic process of investigation which involves a methodological procedure.³ These procedures commence with an identification, formulation of a research problem and conclude with the writing of or carrying out of the research report. In the step by step process of research, various methods are employed in order to realise the purpose or aim and objectives of the research. In as much as there are various types of research, there also exist different types of methods employed in conducting research. It is noteworthy that the type of research determines the type of

¹ G.A. Garner, *Black's Law Dictionary* (Boston: 8th edn., West Publishing Company, 2004), 3140.

² Oxford, *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* (11th edn.).

³ A. Alawiye-Adams, and E. A. Ayodeji and A. I. Azeez, *Basic Statistical Analysis in Research Methods* (Emboss Publishers, 1st edn., 2014), 2.

method used in the research. These research methods are examined in this paper along with other sub-themes as highlighted above in the abstract.

2.0 Definition of Research and Legal Research

Research originates from the French word *recherche* which means to 'search closely' or 'to look for closely'. There exists a plethora of definitions of research and legal research by various authors. Some of these definitions are considered subsequently. Research is a search for knowledge or scientific and systematic search for pertinent information.⁴ Further, it is a process of inquiry, investigation, close scrutiny and discovery⁵ and a systematic investigation towards increasing the sum of knowledge.⁶ Similarly, according to Mbaio,⁷ research is an original investigation undertaken to gain knowledge or to enhance understanding. In emphasising the principle of systematicness in research, Worthley⁸ defined research as a systematic search for facts or scientific investigation of the principles and facts of any subject, based on original and first hand study of authorities or experiment.

A further definition of research was given by Amin⁹ who views research as a diligent and systematic inquiry or investigation into factual or theoretical subjects in order to discover or revise facts, theories and applications. Agrawala¹⁰ views research as the gathering of evidence or information for ascertaining an assumption or verifying some hypothesis. Therefore, research is an inquiry for the verification of a fresh theory or for supplementing prevailing theories by new knowledge. Research is so versatile that each time a person engages in thinking and finds a suitable answer to a question, such a person is engaging in a research.¹¹

On the other hand, legal research is a systematic search for information on a specific field or area of law.¹² It involves the process or processes of gathering information and or formulated legal issues or problems with the view to achieving stated objectives of the research.¹³ Such objectives or purposes includes an increase in the sum of knowledge of the law and support for legal decision-making which are achieved by engaging in a systematic investigation. It includes in it each step of a course of action that commences with an analysis of the facts of a given problem and concludes with the application and communication/presentation of the outcome of the investigation. Further, Amin¹⁴ defines legal research as conducting investigation to discover the principles and rules of law applicable to a particular problem and to discover what the legal answer is. In this regard legal research is an applied research that is to say it aims to solve a given and existing problem.¹⁵

2.1 What is Research Method and Methodology?

Method in research is a specific research technique utilised by the researcher in carrying out research on a particular problem.¹⁶ According to Kothari,¹⁷ research method may be understood as all those

⁴ S. Ryan, *Writing An Empirical Study Design: A Printer*, (Yale: Yale Law School, Lilian Goldman Law Library, 2014), 2.

⁵ J.O. Oyebanji, 'Research and Philosophies' in H.A. Saliu and J.O. Oyebanji, *A Guide on Research Proposal and Report Writing* (Ilorin: Ed., Faculty of Business and Social Sciences, University of Ilorin, 2004), 34.

⁶ M.O.U. Gasiokwu, *Legal Research and Methodology: The A-Z of writing Theses and Dissertations in a Nutshell* (Enugu: Chengbo Ltd., 2004) 3.

⁷ M.L.M. Mbaio, *Guidelines to Research Students* (Faculty of Law, North-West University, Mafikeng, 2007) 1.

⁸ B.A. Worthley, 'Some Reflections on Legal Research after Thirty Years' (1982) 24 *Journal of Indian Law Institute*, Silver Jubilee of the Indian Law Institute Publication No. 7; S.H. Amin, *Research Methods in Law* (Glasgow: Royston Publishers, 1992), 11.

⁹ S.H. Amin, *Research Methods in Law* (Glasgow: Royston Publishers, 1992) 11.

¹⁰ Op. cit. Agrawala at 470-478.

¹¹ Op. cit. J.O. Oyebanji.

¹² T. Hunchinson, *Research and Writing in Law* (Australia: 3rd edn. Lawco, 2010), 20.

¹³ T.I. Akomolede, 'Definition and Nature of Legal Research', being an extract from the class notes dated 11th October, 2017 in Advanced Research Methodology and Legal Writing I (Law 801) for LL.M 2017/2018 Academic Session.

¹⁴ Op. cit. SH Amin at 13-14.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* SH Amin at 14.

¹⁶ A. Taiwo, *Basic Concepts in Legal Research Methodology (A Practical Guide for Master and Doctoral Students and their Supervisors)* (Lagos: 2nd edn., Princeton & Associates Publishing Co. Ltd. 2017), 81.

techniques¹⁸ that are used in conducting a research or used in performing research operations. It entails all the methods used by the researcher during the course of studying the research problem. Since the object of carrying out a research, especially applied research is to arrive at a solution for a given problem, the available data and the unknown aspects of the problem have to be related to each other to find a possible solution.¹⁹ In this regard, research methods can be grouped into the following:

- i. Methods that are concerned with the collection of data. These methods are used where the available data are not sufficient for reaching the requisite solution;
- ii. Statistical techniques used for establishing the relationship between the data and the unknowns;
- iii. Methods used to evaluate the accuracy of the results obtained.²⁰

It is noteworthy that the second and third research methods above are generally regarded as analytical research tools. When using a particular research method, researchers are advised to clearly state and describe the method adopted. The choice of research method(s) should directly relate to the statement of problem. The choice of method must be justified by intimating the reader of the appropriateness of the method for the research work. To illustrate this, Scharzenberger²¹ opined that 'if we dig in the garden, we use a spade. If we search for oil, we employ a roc-drill. In other words, the choice of tools depends on the depth to which we intend to probe.' Etymologically, the word 'methodology' has its root from Latin, specifically the Latin words *methodus* and *logia*. It implies a body of methods, rules and postulates employed by a particular discipline. The Webster's New Explorer Encyclopaedic Dictionary describes it as the analysis of the principles of procedures of inquiry in a particular field.²² Methodology denotes the systematic and logical study of the general principles concerned in the broadest sense with questions of how knowledge is established and how others can be convinced that the knowledge is correct.²³

Methodology is the logic of the application of scientific methods to the investigation of phenomena. Accordingly, research methodology is the theory of correct scientific decisions. Similarly, according to Bulner,²⁴ methodology denotes the systematic and logical study of the general principles concerned in the broadest sense with the question of how knowledge is established, and how others can be convinced that the knowledge is correct. In essence, methodology is a branch of philosophy that deals with the science of method and procedure.²⁵

Research Methodology is the whole set of procedures applied in carrying out a particular research so as to achieve the research objectives, answer the research questions, test the research hypotheses and ultimately find a dependence solution to the identified research problem.²⁶ Further, according to Jejelola²⁷, a research methodology concerns three major research items which are source of data collection²⁸, collection techniques²⁹ and data analysis³⁰. Research methodology consists of

¹⁷ C.R. Kothari, *Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques* (New Delhi: 2nd Rev. Edn., New Age International Publishers, 2004), 7.

¹⁸ Techniques of research refers to the behaviour and instruments used in performing research operations such as making observations, recording data, constructing research technique. *Ibid.*

¹⁹ *Ibid.* C.R. Kothari, 8.

²⁰ *Ibid.*

²¹ G. Scharzenberger, 'Reflections on the Law of International Institutions' (1960) 13 *Current Legal Prob.*, 276 at 289.

²² *Op. cit.* A. Alawiye-Adams, and E. A. Ayodeji and A. I. Azeez, 47.

²³ *Op. cit.* A. Taiwo.

²⁴ M. Bulner, *Sociological Research Methods: An Introduction* (Macmillan Press London 1977) 4.

²⁵ *Op. cit.* S.H. Amin, 28.

²⁶ *Op. cit.* A. Alawiye-Adams, and E. A. Ayodeji and A. I. Azeez, 47-48.

²⁷ O.J. Jejelola, 'Legal Research: An Overview of a Research Proposal' (September, 2014) *European Scientific Journal*, Vol. 2, 55-56.

²⁸ The researcher must specifically state the different sources of his data collection which is either primary or secondary source or any other relevant materials used in the study.

²⁹ Here, the researcher should specify the strategies for collecting data from the identified sources. Techniques for example may include libraries, journals, newspapers, gazettes or through the use of

introduction, research design research population sample and sampling technique research instruments validation of research instruments i.e. validity and reliability of instruments, data collection sources that is, methods of data collection data validation and data analysis techniques.³¹

The main purpose of research methodology is to give the reader a clear indication of the means by which the researcher hopes to achieve the aims of the research, outline an appropriate procedure, and indicate the sources of data that will be used in the research.³² This shows that there exists a correlation between the research methodology and the research aims, objectives, procedure and sources of data. This correlation extends further to the technique of analysis and presentation employed in carrying out the research. In this regard, methodology in research answers two main questions namely:

- i. How was the data collected or generated? and
- ii. How was it analysed?³³

With regard to methodology, depending on the research area or topic, a good research may combine two or more methodologies.³⁴ This type of approach is known as mixed methods or triangulation in some disciplines.³⁵ The mixed method is complex and challenging hence the need for the researcher to properly think carefully about the goals of the research to ascertain whether it demands a combined method or a single-but all-encompassing method.³⁶ Due to the benefits of mixed methods, they are now increasingly used and have gained greater acceptance across several disciplines.

2.2 Scope of Research Methods and Methodology

Several research methodologies and approaches exist in social and management research. However, a typical or conventional research methodology should describe the following procedures applied in the research process:³⁷

- i. Introduction;
- ii. Historical background of the case study;
- iii. Restatement of the research questions and/or hypotheses;
- iv. Research design;
- v. Research population (study population);
- vi. Sample and sampling techniques;
- vii. The research instruments;
- viii. Validation (validity and reliability) of the research instrument;
- ix. Data collection techniques that is, methods of data collection;³⁸
- x. Data validation;
- xi. Data analysis techniques that is, methods of data analysis; and
- xii. Limitations of the methodology.

In legal research, the methodology used will differ among various branches of law. Accordingly, Amin³⁹ explained research methodology to mean the exposition, the description, the explanation and justification of methods used in conducting research in the discipline of law.

3.0 Types of Research Methods

Different types of research methods abound as much as there are types of research. These methods range include participatory action, analytical method, case study, experimental and quasi-

questionnaires, interviews and participant observations as well as oral interviews in a predominantly illiterate environment.

³⁰ Under data analysis, the approaches employed in summarising and explaining the facts collected could be in the form of statistical tables, measures of central tendency, graphical representation as may be relevant to the study.

³¹ *Op. cit.* A. Alawiye-Adams, and E. A. Ayodeji and A. I. Azeez, 3.

³² *Op. cit.* A. Taiwo, 81.

³³ *Ibid.*

³⁴ Y. Aboki, *Introduction to Legal Research Methodology* (Zaria: Tamza Co. Ltd., 2001), 56.

³⁵ *Op. cit.* A. Taiwo, 81.

³⁶ *Ibid.*

³⁷ *Op. cit.* A. Alawiye-Adams, and E. A. Ayodeji and A. I. Azeez, 48.

³⁸ *Op. cit.* S.H. Amin, 28.

³⁹ *Op. cit.* S.H. Amin.

experimental as well as theoretical method among others.⁴⁰ Each discipline has its own peculiar system of methods and rules applied in that field of study. The use of methodology implies that the investigation is to be conducted according to a method, and not at random. In this regard, the basic types of research methods are enumerated and discussed below:

- i. Qualitative Method;
- ii. Quantitative Method;
- iii. Comparative Method;
- iv. Empirical Method;

3.1 Qualitative Method

The qualitative method of research involves the examination and reflection of perceptions in order to gain an understanding of social and human activities.⁴¹ It consists of various interpretation techniques which seek to describe, interpret, translate, and also comprehend the meanings of certain phenomenon. When using the qualitative method, the collected data is mostly subjected to in-depth content analysis or scrutiny.⁴² As a characteristic of the qualitative method, it is more subjective in nature. In this regard, it is popularly used in law and socio-legal research. That notwithstanding, the qualitative method is not exclusive to doctrinal legal research as it can be utilised in other disciplines as well.

3.2 Quantitative Method

This method entails the collection and analysis of numerical data and the application of statistical tests. It is based on the quantitative measurements of some characteristics and applicable to phenomena that can be expressed in terms of quantities.⁴³ Under the quantitative method, testing of hypothesis and use of statistical procedures leads the researcher to draw inferences about the population studied.⁴⁴ It is noteworthy that because of its statistical nature, the quantitative method is rarely used in law/legal research as opposed to the social science and science inclined researches where it is popular. In a nutshell, its nature is objective, deductive and focuses on measuring phenomena.

It is noteworthy that the quantitative method is peculiar to statistical type of research.⁴⁵ Under statistical research, information or data are gathered using statistics or quantitative methods from which inferences are drawn on the actual workings of the law or on the subject matter/focus of the research. It involves the collection and collation of data in a methodological way. However it is noteworthy that because this involves quantitative analysis and requires expertise it is not a very popular way of conducting research legal research as stated above. Further, this involves going to the field in order to collect data through surveys opinion polls, participant observation and further, reliance on instruments lie questionnaires and interviews.

3.3 Comparative Method

Generally, to compare is to examine two or more entities by putting them side by side and looking for similarities and differences between or among them.⁴⁶ Comparative method of research according to Kung⁴⁷ is a unique, systematic and jurisprudential strategy applied, by virtue of similarities and differences between the diverse legal systems, to acquire new understanding regarding the specific topic. This method may compare two or more legal systems, or compare phenomena or concepts within a given legal system.⁴⁸ The approach to the comparative method is similar to that of

⁴⁰ *Op. cit.* A. Taiwo.

⁴¹ *Op. cit.* M.L.M. Mbaio, 3.

⁴² *Op. cit.* A. Taiwo, 84.

⁴³ *Ibid.* 85.

⁴⁴ *Op. cit.* M.L.M. Mbaio.

⁴⁵ T.I. Akomolede, 'Types of Legal Research', being an extract from the class notes dated 2nd November, 2017 in Advanced Research Methodology and Legal Writing I (Law 801) for LL.M 2017/2018 Academic Session.

⁴⁶ M. Hayden, *Introduction to International Education* (London: Sage Publication Ltd. & New Delhi: Thousand Oas, 2006), 4.

⁴⁷ Kung, *An International Perspective on the Fundamental Human Rights of Educators* (2007) 7 as cited in A. Taiwo, 85, *Op.cit.*

⁴⁸ A. Kabir, 'Nature of Legal Research and the Option for New Researchers' as cited in A.B. Ahmed, *Issues in Research Methodology in Law* (Zaria: ABU Press Ltd., 2010), 8.

comparative law. Comparative law according to Watson⁴⁹ is study of the relationship, above all the historical relationship between legal systems or between rules of more than one system. It is now a fact that comparative law is a method of study which De Cruz categorically asserts is neither a branch of law nor a legal body of rules but rather a method of study.⁵⁰

The rationale for comparative study or method is the contemporary realisation that a lawyer like any other professional cannot limit his attention only to what occurs within his country's jurisdiction and borders. Further, the importance of learning from the experience of other nations is obvious within the fields of natural sciences, medicine and technology. The importance of learning from other nation's experience is advocated for in the legal field.⁵¹ Likewise, given the fact that the entire world has become a global village, comparative method of research constitutes an important method in conducting research in law.⁵² In this regard, David and Brierley⁵³ opined that:

To enclose legal science within the boundaries of one nation, and to pretend to explain or develop it without taking into account foreign thought and experience is to limit both the possibilities of knowledge and the sphere of action of the jurist. No more than history, economics, political science or sociology, can law - a social science - be properly studied from a purely national point of view. Juridical nationalism is provincialism, and irreconcilable with a truly scientific spirit; it impoverishes and indeed is dangerous to the development and even the application of a national law.⁵⁴

3.4 Empirical Method

The empirical method of research is a data based research which relies on experience or observation, often without due regard for system and theory.⁵⁵ Under this method, the conclusions reached are capable of being verified by observation or experiment. It is noteworthy that the empirical method of research is also known as the experimental type. This method is ideal for a research which strives to address the issue of lack of information on the particular subject of the research through the carrying out of field work or experiment. This is done in addition to review of relevant literature on the subject matter.⁵⁶

It is sometimes the notion among students of research that in order to carry out 'proper' research, they have to engage in empirical collection of data through interviews, survey, questionnaires, experiment or case study among others. According to Bak,⁵⁷ this is not the case in real sense as rigorous research can also be purely theoretical or doctrinal. This evidenced in the fact that there exist several academic books and articles that were not products of empirical studies yet they are excellent and rich in their own right and content.⁵⁸ In this regard, a thesis or research can be purely theoretical or be a combination of literature and empirical work however this will depend on the research topic and the purpose of research as enunciated in the research questions. It is noteworthy that most research in law and other related disciplines in the arts such as philosophy, language studies, history and religious studies do not usually utilise the empirical method but rather, focus on the theoretical or policy arguments and the development of theoretical insights.⁵⁹ Regardless of whether a researcher intends to engage in empirical collection of data, the researcher must still have a theoretical (literature) base from which the researcher proceeds with the research.⁶⁰ This shows that the empirical method of

⁴⁹ Watson, *Legal Transplants* (1973) 9 as cited in A. Taiwo, 85, *Op.cit*

⁵⁰ De Cruz, *Comparative Law in a Changing World* (1995) 3-5 as cited in A. Taiwo, 85, *Ibid*.

⁵¹ M. Bogdan, *Comparative Law* (Sweden Norstedts Juridik/Norway Tano: Kluwer Law & Taxation Publishers, 1994) 20 & 29.

⁵² A. Taiwo, 'The Implementation of Constitutional Right to Education in South Africa and Nigeria' (Research Thesis submitted for the Award of Doctor of Laws (LLD) Degree of the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Port-elizabeth, South Africa 2010), 19-20 & 24.

⁵³ R. David and J.E.C. Brierley, *Major Legal Systems in the World Today* (London: Stevens & Sons, 1968), 8.

⁵⁴ *Ibid*.

⁵⁵ *Op. cit.* A. Taiwo, 87.

⁵⁶ N. Bak, *Completing Your Thesis: A Particular Guide* (Pretoria: Van Schak Publishers, 2004), 11.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, 25.

⁵⁸ *Op. cit.* A. Taiwo.

⁵⁹ *Op. cit.* Bak, 26.

⁶⁰ *Ibid*.

research as well as other methods are not exclusive as to exclude theoretical considerations in their respective methods.

4.0 Objectives of Research Methods

Generally, the main purpose of research methods is to realise/achieve the purpose or aim and objectives of the research. However, other objectives⁶¹ include the following:

- i. Research method describes the rationale for the use of specific procedures or techniques used to identify select and analyse information applied to understanding the research problem;
- ii. Research method aids the reader to critically evaluate the overall validity and reliability of a study;
- iii. The research method adopted in carrying out a research facilitates and determines the techniques used in analysing and presenting the collected data;
- iv. Research methods are ideal for summarising and communicating the research findings.

4.1 Barriers of Research Methods

Research methods are not free from barriers which affect their effectiveness and efficiencies in carrying out research. Some of these barriers are enumerated below:

- i. The expertise required when using certain methods of research, for example, the need for statisticians or numerically inclined experts in quantitative or statistical method constitutes a barrier;
- ii. There exist higher level of subjectivity in some research methods like the qualitative method which can be a barrier as it entails less objectivity, and relies on perceptions which can be rooted in bias and unfounded opinions;
- iii. Geographical, language and cultural barriers can be barriers to the comparative method of research when it is employed in conducting a comparative research of two or more legal systems (for example, the legal systems of Nigeria and China).

5.0 Conclusion

This paper has examined the various types of research methods. In this regard, a research method entails the processes adopted by a researcher in order to obtain reliable and valid data or information about a phenomenon which constitutes the objects of the research efforts and achieve the research aims and objectives. On the other hand, research methodology is the science of all the methods and procedures used in a research. Further, this paper explains the concepts of research and legal research in order to distinguish them in terms of scope, rationale and objectives.

It is a fact that some research methods are peculiar in certain disciplines. However, when a particular method is adopted for research in a discipline, certain challenges may be encountered. In employing the comparative method of research in comparing the laws of different legal systems (for example Nigeria and China), the challenge of geographical location, language and cultural barriers come up.

5.1 Recommendations

When the quantitative or statistical method of research is used in a legal research, lawyers/legal researchers may face challenges which can be overcome by the adoption of an interdisciplinary approach to research. According to Akomolede, this is known as academic collaboration. The rationale for this is so that persons who are knowledgeable in the numerical or quantitative aspect of research are brought in to carry the analysis in the research while the lawyer/legal researcher focuses on drawing inferences based on observable/verifiable data. Such innovation could be applied to a research on the reasons for the increased number of convictions in certain offences or the reason for congested prisons.

Further, in order to overcome the geographical challenge as well as the language and cultural barriers experienced under the comparative method of research, the researcher can adopt information and communication technology, use of competent interpreter(s) and engaging in focused group discussion where the researcher gets acculturated by living among the research subject and learning their cultures.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

⁶¹ *Op. cit.* A. Taiwo, 84.

Books

Aboki Y., Introduction to Legal Research Methodology (Zaria: Tamza Co. Ltd., 2001).

Alawiye-Adams A., and Ayodeji E. A. and Azeez A. I., Basic Statistical Analysis in Research Methods (Emboss Publishers, 1st edn., 2014).

Amin S.H., Research Methods in Law (Glasgow: Royston Publishers, 1992).

Bak N., Completing Your Thesis: A Particular Guide (Pretoria: Van Schak Publishers, 2004).

Bogdan M., Comparative Law (Sweden Norstedts Juridik/Norway Tano: Kluwer Law & Taxation Publishers, 1994).

Bulner M., Sociological Research Methods: An Introduction (Macmillan Press London 1977).

David R. and Brierley J.E.C., Major Legal Systems in the World Today (London: Stevens & Sons, 1968).

De Cruz, Comparative Law in a Changing World (1995) as cited in Taiwo A., Basic Concepts in Legal Research Methodology (A Practical Guide for Master and Doctoral Students and their Supervisors) (Lagos: 2nd edn., Princeton & Associates Publishing Co. Ltd. 2017).

Gasiokwu M.O.U., Legal Research and Methodology: The A-Z of writing Theses and Dissertations in a Nutshell (Enugu: Chengbo Ltd., 2004).

Hayden M., Introduction to International Education (London: Sage Publication Ltd. & New Delhi: Thousand Oaks, 2006).

Hunchinson T., Research and Writing in Law (Australia: 3rd edn. Lawco, 2010).

Kabir A., 'Nature of Legal Research and the Option for New Researchers' as cited in Ahmed A.B., Issues in Research Methodology in Law (Zaria: ABU Press Ltd., 2010).

Kothari C.R., Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques (New Delhi: 2nd Rev. Edn., New Age International Publishers, 2004).

Kung, An International Perspective on the Fundamental Human Rights of Educators (2007) 7 as cited in Taiwo A.) Lagos: 2nd edn., Princeton & Associates Publishing Co. Ltd. 2017).

Mbao M.L.M., Guidelines to Research Students (Faculty of Law, North-West University, Mafikeng, 2007).

Oyebanji J.O., 'Research and Philosophies' in Saliu H.A. and Oyebanji J.O., A Guide on Research Proposal and Report Writing (Ilorin: Ed., Faculty of Business and Social Sciences, University of Ilorin, 2004).

Ryan S., Writing An Empirical Study Design: A Printer, (Yale: Yale Law School, Lilian Goldman Law Library, 2014).

Taiwo A., Basic Concepts in Legal Research Methodology (A Practical Guide for Master and Doctoral Students and their Supervisors) (Lagos: 2nd edn., Princeton & Associates Publishing Co. Ltd. 2017).

Watson, Legal Transplants (1973) 9 as cited in Taiwo A., Basic Concepts in Legal Research Methodology (A Practical Ltd. 2017).

Journal Articles

Jejelola O.J., 'Legal Research: An Overview of a Research Proposal' (September, 2014) European Scientific Journal, Vol. 2.

Scharzenberger G., 'Reflections on the Law of International Institutions' (1960) 13 Current Legal Prob.

Worthley B.A., 'Some Reflections on Legal Research after Thirty Years' (1982) 24 Journal of Indian Law Institute, Jubilee of the Indian Law Institute Publication No. 7.

Dictionaries

Garner G.A., Black's Law Dictionary (Boston: 8th edn., West Publishing Company, 2004).

Oxford, Concise Oxford English Dictionary (11th edn.).

Class Notes

Akomoledé T.I., 'Definition and Nature of Legal Research', being an extract from the class notes dated 11th October, 2017 in Advanced Research Methodology and Legal Writing I (Law 801) for LL.M 2017/2018 Academic Session.

Akomoledé T.I., 'Types of Legal Research', being an extract from the class notes dated 2nd November, 2017 in Advanced Research Methodology and Legal Writing I (Law 801) for LL.M 2017/2018 Academic Session.

Research Papers

Taiwo A., 'The Implementation of Constitutional Right to Education in South Africa and Nigeria' (Research Thesis, South Africa 2010).