



Syllabus for PhD Entrance Exam

January -2025

Department: HISTORY

PART I – RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Unit 1 – Introduction to Research Methodology

The Meaning, Definition, Nature and Need of 'Research' –Types of Research- Research in Social Sciences and Natural Sciences – Objectivity in Research –Research Philosophy- Deductive and Inductive Reasoning - Scientific method -Basic Categories in Scientific Method – Facts – Concepts – Construct - Theory.

Unit 2 – Basic Mechanics of Research and Research Ethics

Formulation of Research Design - Research Problem and Formulation– Role of Review of Literature– Formulation of Objectives. Hypothesis; Concept, Definition, Formulation, Concepts in testing of Hypothesis. Ethics – meaning and definition- Ethics with respect to science and research, intellectual honesty, and research integrity. Scientific misconduct – falsification, fabrication, and plagiarism.

Unit 3 – Sampling and Data Collection

Sampling - Various Sampling Methods – Importance of Proper Sampling Design. Primary Data Collection - Tools – Observation, Interview, Schedule and Questionnaire – Questionnaire-Design, Structure, Types of questions - Reliability and validity of data. Secondary Data- Sources of Secondary Data- Collection of Secondary Data. –Qualitative Research – Methods –Case Study.

References

1. C R Kothari, Gaurav Garg (2019). Research Methodology: Methods And Techniques, New Age International.
2. Ranjit Kumar (2014). Research Methodology: A Step by Step Guide for Beginners, 4th Edition, Sage Publications.
3. Barbara H Stanley J Joan E Sieber, Gary B Melton. Research Ethics: A Psychological Approach. University of Nebraska Press

PART II – DOMAIN-SPECIFIC

Unit 1 - Historiography and Historical Methods

Definitions of History, Periodisation, and Temporal Context, Concepts of Time, Historical Consciousness and Historical Thinking, Facts in History Writing: Objectivity, Narratives and Perspectives, Causation and Generalization in History, Ideology and/in History, Subjectivity and Objectivity Debate, Different Types of sources and their use, Basics of Archiving. What is an archive? Politics of archiving., Different Approaches to writing history, Themes in history

Unit 2 – History and Theory

Structuralism- Poststructuralism- Post Modernism and the Critique of Historical Objectivity- Critique of Post Modernism.

Unit 3 – Modern Indian History

Different Schools of Modern Indian History: National, Marxist, Subaltern (Historiography), Peasants, Labour, Women, and Caste Movements in India, Indian National Movement, Economic History of India, Post Independence India: partition, implementing the Nehruvian model in Economics, the language debate, caste debate, India in Cold War

References

1. David Arnold, Ranajit Guha, and David Hardiman, Subaltern studies: Essays in honour of Ranajit Guha (Oxford University Press, 1999).
2. E.H. Carr, What is History, 2001, Palgrave, Basingstoke
3. Derek Attridge, et al, Post Structuralism and the question of History, 1987, Cambridge University Press.
4. Dipesh Chakrabarty, Provincializing Europe: Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference, Princeton University Press, 2000.

5. Dyos H.J., The Study of Urban History, Edward Arnold, 1968.
6. Dipesh Chakrabarty, Habitations of Modernity, Orient Blackswan, 2004.
7. Fernand Braudel, Of History, Chicago University Press, 1980.
8. Janaki Nair, Women and Law in Colonial India, New Delhi: Kali for Women, 1996.
9. Jan Vansina, The Oral Tradition, London, 1965.
10. Jayapalan N., Historiography, Atlantic Publishers & Distributors, 2004.
11. Joan Kelley, Women, History and Theory, Chicago University Press, 1984.
12. Joan Wallach Scott, Gender and the Politics of History, New York Columbia University Press, 1988.
13. John Sturrock, Structuralism, 2nd edition, Blackwell, 2003
14. Kumkum Sangari, Uma Chakravarti, and Indian Institute of Advanced Study, From Myths to Markets: Essays on Gender, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, 1999.
15. Sarkar, Sumit 1983, Modern India, 1886-1947, Basingstoke/London: Macmillan.
16. Sarkar, Sumit 1997, Writing Social History, New Delhi: OUP.
17. Sarkar, Sumit 2002, Beyond Nationalist Frames. Relocating Postmodernism, Hindutva, History, New Delhi: Permanent Black
