

Savitribai Phule Pune University

(Formerly University of Pune)

Syllabus for M.Phil./ Ph.D. (PET) Entrance Exam : History

Research Methodology

Unit 1: Foundations of Research

Meaning of Research, motivation for research, objectives of research
Characteristics of scientific method, empiricism,

Approaches to research: positivistic and interpretive, qualitative and quantitative, inductive and deductive and mix-method approach, Feminist approach, Social Research – time and space context

Epistemological, ontological positions, Critical Research

Unit 2: Basic terms and types of research

Theory, concept, construct, fact,

Methodology, method, tool and technique, heuristics and hermeneutics

Types of research- Exploratory, descriptive, analytical/explanatory, experimental, evaluation and impact assessment, interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, trans-disciplinary,

Sources – primary, secondary, archival, digital, visual, audio, material, numismatic, epigraphic

Unit 3: Research Design

Research design- concept and definition, need, advantages of planning a research, characteristics of good research design, Steps in research design; Identification, Selection and Formulation of problem, Literature Review

Unit 4: Hypothesis

Definition, characteristic of good hypothesis and sources of hypothesis

Hypothesis Testing–Logic & Importance hypothesis testing-

Unit 5: Methods of research

Historical Research Methods: Heuristics, Hermeneutics

Interdisciplinary Methods: Linguistic, Spatial, Cultural Turns in History; Ethno-History and its methods; Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in History; Case-study, ethnography, historical, Interview

Unit 6: Tools of data collection

Archives – press lists, field research, linguistic tools, coin hoards, museums, private collections, visual and audio-visual archives

Unit 7: Research Ethics, Publication of Research and Plagiarism

Research Ethics, History of research ethics.

Introduction to ethical principles - What is morality?, What is ethics?, What is ethical theory?

Sources of Scholarly discourse, books, journals, monographs, proceedings, encyclopedias etc.

Research referencing: Why – due credit to researchers, track back original research, its data, and sources etc., to avoid plagiarism

Referencing and Citations: What is Citation? Citation styles, its basic components (Authors or editors, Book, journals etc, year and month of publication, page numbers, volume and issue etc)

Subject Concerned Syllabus History (Ph.D.)

Section I: Philosophies of History

1. Graeco-Roman, Church Philosophies of History
2. Chinese, Arab Philosophies of History
3. Indian Philosophies of History
4. Cartesian and anti-Cartesian Philosophies of History
5. Rationalist Philosophy of History
6. Romanticist Philosophy of History
7. Idealist Philosophy of History
8. Positivism, Empiricism, Marxism, post-Marxism

Section II: Early Indian History and Culture – Pre-History to 8th century CE

1. Sources
2. Polity
3. Society
4. Economy
5. Religion
6. Culture
7. Urbanisation
8. Recent trends and advances in research in Early Indian history

Section III: Medieval Indian History

3-A: Medieval Indian History – 8th century CE to 18th century CE

1. Sources
2. Polity
3. Society
4. Economy
5. Religion
6. Culture
7. Urbanisation
8. Recent trends and advances in research in Medieval Indian history

3-B: History of the Marathas – 1630-1818

1. Sources
2. Polity
3. Society
4. Economy
5. Culture
6. Urbanisation
7. Recent trends and advances in research in Maratha history

Section IV: Modern Indian History – 18th century to 1971

1. Establishment and Expansion of Colonial systems in India
 - Law and Judiciary
 - Economy –land, deindustrialisation, emergence of industries, market economy
2. Modernity
 - Education
 - Social reform movements
3. Rise and growth of Nationalism
4. Tribal, Dalit, Peasant and Workers' movements
5. The Partition of India
6. India's Independence and the making of the Constitution
7. Independent India
 - Planned Economy
 - Foreign Policy
 - Science and Technology

Subject Concerned Syllabus History (M.Phil.)

Section I: Research Methodology

1. Historical Research Methods
 - Heuristics
 - Hermeneutics
2. Schools of Historiography in Indian History
 - Imperial
 - Nationalist
 - Marxist
 - Subaltern
 - Cambridge

Section II: Early Indian History and Culture – Pre-History to 8th century CE

1. Sources
2. Political Ideas and Institutions
 - Lineage Polities
 - Pre-state formations – janapadas, mahajanapadas
 - Early state formations – mahajanapada to Maurya
 - Administrative institutions
3. Social Ideas and Institutions
 - Kin and lineage society
 - The emergence of caste-based societies, marginalization and subordination
 - Social protest and the emergence of new social and religious forms

4. Economy
 - Development of Agriculture and trade – iron age, Magadha, Gupta
 - Expanding trade economy
5. Deccan and South India
 - Sangam Age
 - The emergence of states in the Deccan – the Satavahanas
 - Trade networks
 - Urban economy
6. Architecture – religious, military, secular

Section III: Medieval Indian History

3-A: Medieval Indian History – 8th century CE to 18th century CE

1. Sources
2. The state in Medieval India
 - Modern perceptions of the medieval state – theocracy, feudal, segmentary, patrimonial-bureaucratic
 - Medieval theories of the state – Farabi, Ghazzali, Shukracharya, Barani, Abul Fazl, Ramachandrapant Amatya
3. Administrative systems
 - Kingship
 - Central and provincial administration – Sultanate, Mughal, Chola, Vijayanagar
 - Mansabdari system
4. Medieval Indian society
 - Social mobility and social stratification in medieval India, the emergence of classes
 - Bhakti and social change
 - Sufism and Sikhism
5. Economy
 - Agrarian systems, north and south India
 - Trade, internal and external
 - Financial institutions – banking, bills of exchange
 - Impact of the arrival of the Europeans
6. Architecture – religious, military, secular

3-B: History of the Marathas – 1630-1818

1. Sources
2. The Maratha State – formation and nature
3. Administrative systems
 - Kingship
 - Central administration
 - Provincial administration
 - Local administration

4. Socio-political institutions
 - Varna and caste
 - Communities
 - Gota
 - Watan
5. Economy
 - Agriculture
 - Industry
 - Currency and banking
6. Architecture – religious, military, secular

Section IV: Modern Indian History – 18th century to 1971

1. Establishment and Expansion of Colonial systems in India
 - Law and Judiciary
 - Economy – land, deindustrialisation, emergence of industries, market economy
 - Education
 - Press
2. Rise and growth of Nationalism
3. The Partition of India
4. India's Independence and the making of the Constitution
5. Independent India
 - a. Planned economy
 - b. Foreign policy
 - c. Science and Technology

Section V: World History

1. Ancient civilisations
 - Tigris-Euphrates
 - Nile
 - Hwang-ho, Yangtse-Kiang
 - Indus
2. Classical civilisations
 - Greece
 - Rome
3. Medieval Europe – Feudal society and economy in Europe
4. Renaissance, Reformation and Enlightenment
5. Industrial Revolution, Imperialism, World Wars
6. Cold War