

Savitribai Phule Pune University

(Formerly University of Pune)

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

Women's Studies

Research Methodology

Unit 1: Foundations of Research

Meaning of Research, motivation for research, objectives of research

Characteristics of scientific method, empiricism, value neutrality, Repeatability verifiability

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,

independent and dependent variables,

Methodology, method, tool and technique

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

Basic Research, Applied Research, Action research, participatory research

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, Primary and secondary data, sources of data- authenticity, credibility, reliability of sources and data

Unit 4: Sample and sampling designs

Concept of population, sample, sampling frame, sampling unit

Need and advantages of sample study, Characteristics of representative sample, sampling error,

Concept of probability and non-probability sampling

Types of probability sampling- simple random sampling, systematic random sampling, proportionate and disproportionate stratified random sampling

Types of non-probability sampling- purposive, snowball

Unit 5: Methods of research

Sample Survey, Case-study, life-history / oral history, ethnography, historical, Interview, discourse analysis, content analysis

Unit 6: Tools of data collection

Questionnaire, Interview Schedule, Observation and types of observation, Focused Group Discussion, Scales and scaling techniques, Interview Guide, Field Diary, Thick Description

Unit 7: Statistics in Social Sciences

Types of measurement: Nominal, Ordinal and Scale

Basic statistical techniques: aggregation of data, totals, percentages, tabulation – univariate, cross tabulation- bivariate and multivariate

Data Presentation- Charts and Graphs: Bar charts, Histograms, Clustered bar charts, clustered histogram, pie chart, Pyramid

Statistical packages: SPSS, SAS, Statistica, R, PSPP

Qualitative Data Analysis softwares- N-Vivo

Unit 8: Research Ethics

Research Ethics, History of research ethics.

Introduction to ethical principles - What is morality?, What is ethics?, What is ethical theory?, Anonymity, Confidentiality, Informed consent, Rights of participants, Harm to respondents and Researchers, Principles of biomedical and social science ethics, Ethical Guideline in Social Research

Unit 9: Presenting and Writing of Research

Reviewing sources of Scholarly discourse, books, journals, monographs, proceedings, encyclopedias, databases online and print, Indexing databases, reviewing bibliographic databases

Major steps in doing research- .Understanding the logic of developing arguments and counter arguments note making, writing responses, making an effective presentation, writing descriptions, analysis and conceptual analysis

Unit 10: Referencing and Citations

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)

Differences in Citations of: Journal Articles, Authored books, Edited books, conference proceedings, posters, other media such as newspapers and magazines, electronic media such as websites and blogs, social media, photographs, videos and audio recordings, Legal proceedings, Reports of various agencies etc.

Subject Concerned Syllabus

Women's Studies Centre

The syllabus for the entrance test for a doctoral programme in Women's Studies will consist of ten modules.

1. Feminist Theory
2. Feminist Movements
3. Development: Gender Perspectives
4. Theory of Gender in India
5. Feminist Research Methodology
6. Gendering Social History
7. Culture: Gender Perspectives
8. Gender, Nation and Community
9. Gender and Sexualities: Perspectives and Issues
10. Gender and Dalit Studies

Module 1 : Feminist Theory

Global distribution of power, European modernity and feminist thought in Europe and USA, Latin America, West Asia, South Asia, Africa and Far East, Feminist Classics in Europe and USA: Reading 'Difference', Sex and Gender, Feminists Debates in Liberalism and Radical and Dominance Approaches, post structuralism, Feminist Debates in Marxist and Materialist Feminisms, Feminist Debates on race, class, caste and nation, Feminist Postcolonial Theory.

Module 2 : Feminist Movement

Women's Movement in Pre and Post Independent India, Challenges before women's Movement post 90's, local and global nature of women's movement. Women's Movements in India: Post- 1975 Campaigns, Issues and Challenges

Module 3 : Development: Gender Perspectives

Feminism and Development: Emergence of Women as a Constituency in Development: WID, WAD And GAD, Development and the Indian Nation State: Landmark Policies, Plans, Reports and Commissions. Analyzing significance of Human development indicators and Gender Development Indicators.

Module 4 : Theory of Gender in India

Engendering Disciplines and Theorizing Gender in India, Family, Kinship and Household Debates on Sexuality, Nation and Community, Constitution and Law as Subversive Sites Caste, Class, Labour, Politics, Health and Education

Module 5 : Feminist Research Methodology

Science, Nature and Gender-Feminism and Paradigm Shift, Quantitative and Qualitative Research: An Introduction Feminist Epistemology, Methodology and Method
What is Distinctive about Feminist Method? Feminist Reworking of methods of research, Reflexive Research: Feminist Contributions, Dilemmas and Ethics

Module 6 : Gendering Social History

The Significance of History: Why Social History, Different Perspectives, Debates in Feminist Historiography (Feminist Engagements with Left/ Non-Brahmin/ Subaltern/ Post-Colonial), Rewriting Histories: Feminist Interrogations, Recasting of Women in Modern Social Institutions in India, Doing Social History: From Gender and Caste Perspective

Module 7 : Culture: Gender Perspectives

Gender and Culture: Basic Concepts, Approaches to the Study of Culture. Feminist Renderings of Representation, Ideology, Hegemony, Folk- Popular- Public Culture, Studying Cultural Practices: A Gender, Caste And Class, untangling Contemporary Cases/ Issues: Shah Bano and RoopKanwar Cases, Practices of Anti- Mandal Protests, Controversies Against Beauty Contests/ Dress Code, 'Fire' Controversy

Module 8 : Gender, Nation and Community

Colonialism, Nationalism, and the Woman Question-The debates around anti-colonial and nationalist movements, ideas, and theories, Gender, Nation and State- The influence of state and religious communities on the construction of gendered identities.

Module 9 : Gender and Sexualities: Perspectives and Issues

Theoretical Perspectives: Liberationist, Identity Politics, Difference, Social Constructionism, Queer Theory- Focus on Post- 1970s Developments, Sexualities, Modernity and History, State, Market and Sexualities: Engaging with Issues of Violence and Desire, Debating Sexual Citizenship, Sexualization of Work, Sexualities, Movements and Rights: Debating Sex –Work, Same Sex Love and Friendships, AIDS Discrimination.

Module 10 : Gender and Dalit Studies

Emergence of Dalit Studies and Relationship to Gender Studies in India, Nation, Caste and Gender: Reviewing Classics on Woman's Question and Caste Question in Colonial India, Caste, Class and Community (Debates on Violence of Brahmanical Patriarchy, Caste and Marxism, Caste and Hindutva, Conversion, Caste and Woman's Question), Caste, Gender and Democracy in India