

## Ph.D. Entrance Test - SYLLABUS – 2024-25 Psychology

### Part: 1 (Research Methodology)

**UNIT-1 Research and Psychology.** Meaning of research – objectives of Research – Types of Research – Significance of Research – Research Methods V/s. Methodology – Importance of knowing how Research is Done – Research Process – Criteria of Good Research – Problems encountered by Researchers in India. Methods of Psychological research: Experimental, quasi experimental, case studies, field studies and cross cultural studies.

**UNIT-2 : Selecting the Research Problem :** What is Research Problems – Selecting the problem – Necessity of defining the problem – Technique involved in defining problem – Meaning and types of variables – meaning and types of Hypotheses – characteristics of a good hypothesis, Suggestions for hypothesis construction.

**UNIT-3 : Research Design :** Meaning of Research Design - Need for Research Design – Features of a Good Design – Important concepts relating to Research Design – Different types research design and testing causal hypothesis.

**UNIT: 4 Sampling Meaning** and types of Sampling- Probability and non- Probability Sampling Methods, Need of Sampling- Random Sampling- simple and stratified random sampling- other types of sampling

**UNIT-5: Tools of Research:** Questionnaire – Interview – Observation- Survey Method – Rating Scales – other tools : Check list – Socio-metry – Q sort technique – the Semantic Differential technique and Psychological Testing, Characteristics of a good Psychological Test- Types of Reliability and Validity of Psychological Test.



## **Part: 2 Core Subject Content Paper II Syllabus**

### **1. Emergence of Psychology Psychological thought in some major Eastern Systems:**

Bhagavad Gita, Buddhism, Sufism and Integral Yoga. Academic psychology in India: Pre-independence era; post-independence era; 1970s: The move to addressing social issues; 1980s: Indigenization; 1990s: Paradigmatic concerns, disciplinary identity crisis; 2000s: Emergence of Indian psychology in academia. Issues: The colonial encounter; Post colonialism and psychology; Lack of distinct disciplinary identity. Western: Greek heritage, medieval period and modern period. Structuralism, Functionalism, Psychoanalytical, Gestalt, Behaviorism, Humanistic-Existential, Transpersonal, Cognitive revolution, Multiculturalism. Four founding paths of academic psychology - Wundt, Freud, James, Dilthey. Issues: Crisis in psychology due to strict adherence to experimental-analytical paradigm (logical empiricism). Indic influences on modern psychology. Essential aspects of knowledge paradigms: Ontology, epistemology, and methodology. Paradigms of Western Psychology: Positivism, Post-Positivism, Critical perspective, Social Constructionism, Existential Phenomenology, and Co-operative Enquiry. Paradigmatic Controversies. Significant Indian paradigms on psychological knowledge: Yoga, Bhagavad Gita, Buddhism, Sufism, and Integral Yoga. Science and spirituality (avidya and vidya). The primacy of self-knowledge in Indian psychology.

**2. Psychological testing Types of tests and Test construction:** Item writing, item analysis Test standardization: Reliability, validity and Norms Areas of testing: Intelligence, creativity, neuropsychological tests, aptitude, Personality assessment, interest inventories Attitude scales – Semantic differential. Staples. Likert scale. Computer-based psychological testing Applications of psychological testing in various settings: Clinical, Organizational and business, Education, Counseling, Military. Career guidance.

**3. Biological basis of behavior Sensory systems:** General and specific sensations, receptors and processes Neurons: Structure, functions, types, neural impulse, synaptic transmission. Neurotransmitters. The Central and Peripheral Nervous Systems – Structure and functions. Neuroplasticity. Methods of Physiological Psychology: Invasive methods – Anatomical methods, degeneration techniques, lesion techniques, chemical methods, microelectrode studies. Non-invasive methods – EEG, Scanning methods. Muscular and Glandular system: Types and functions Biological basis of Motivation: Hunger, Thirst, Sleep and Sex. Biological basis of emotion: The Limbic system, Hormonal regulation of behavior. Genetics and behavior: Chromosomal anomalies; Nature-Nurture controversy [Twin studies and adoption studies]

**4. Attention, Perception, Learning, Memory and Forgetting Attention:** Forms of attention, Models of attention Perception: Approaches to the Study of Perception: Gestalt and physiological approaches Perceptual Organization: Gestalt, Figure and Ground, Law of Organization Perceptual Constancy: Size, Shape, and Color; Illusions Perception of Form, Depth and Movement Role of motivation and learning in perception Signal detection theory: Assumptions and applications Subliminal perception and related factors, information processing



approach to perception, culture and perception, perceptual styles, Pattern recognition, Ecological perspective on perception. Learning Process: Fundamental theories: Thorndike, Guthrie, Hull Classical Conditioning: Procedure, phenomena and related issues Instrumental learning: Phenomena, Paradigms and theoretical issues; Reinforcement: Basic variables and schedules; Behaviour modification and its applications Cognitive approaches in learning: Latent learning, observational learning. Verbal learning and Discrimination learning Recent trends in learning: Neurophysiology of learning Memory and Forgetting Memory processes: Encoding, Storage, Retrieval Page 4 of 5 Stages of memory: Sensory memory, Short-term memory (Working memory), Long-term Memory (Declarative – Episodic and Semantic; Procedural) Theories of Forgetting: Interference, Retrieval Failure, Decay, Motivated forgetting

**5. Thinking, Intelligence and Creativity Theoretical perspectives on thought processes:**

Associationism, Gestalt, Information processing, Feature integration model Concept formation: Rules, Types, and Strategies; Role of concepts in thinking Types of Reasoning Language and thought Problem solving: Type, Strategies, and Obstacles Decision-making: Types and models Metacognition: Metacognitive knowledge and Metacognitive regulation Intelligence: Spearman; Thurstone; Jensen; Cattell; Gardner; Stenberg; Goleman; Das, Kar & Parrila Creativity: Torrance, Getzels & Jackson, Guilford, Wallach & Kogan Relationship between Intelligence and Creativity

**6. Personality, Motivation, emotion, stress and coping Determinants of personality:**

Biological and socio-cultural Approaches to the study of personality: Psychoanalytical, Neo-Freudian, Social learning, Trait and Type, Cognitive, Humanistic, Existential, Transpersonal psychology. Other theories: Rotter's Locus of Control, Seligman's Explanatory styles, Kohlberg's theory of Moral development. Basic motivational concepts: Instincts, Needs, Drives, Arousal, Incentives, Motivational Cycle. Approaches to the study of motivation: Psychoanalytical, Ethological, S-R Cognitive, Humanistic Exploratory behavior and curiosity Zuckerman's Sensation seeking Achievement, Affiliation and Power Motivational Competence Self-regulation Flow Emotions: Physiological correlates Theories of emotions: James-Lange, Canon-Bard, Schachter and Singer, Lazarus, Lindsley. Emotion regulation Conflicts: Sources and types Stress and Coping: Concept, Models, Type A, B, C, D behaviors, Stress management strategies [Biofeedback, Music therapy, Breathing exercises, Progressive Muscular Relaxation, Guided Imagery, Mindfulness, Meditation, Yogasana, Stress Inoculation Training].

**7. Social Psychology Nature, scope and history of social psychology Traditional theoretical perspectives:**

Field theory, Cognitive Dissonance, Sociobiology, Psychodynamic Approaches, Social Cognition. Social perception [Communication, Attributions]; attitude and its change within cultural context; prosocial behavior Group and Social influence [Social Facilitation; Social loafing]; Social influence [Conformity, Peer Pressure, Persuasion, Compliance, Obedience, Social Power, Reactance]. Aggression. Group dynamics, leadership style and effectiveness. Theories of intergroup relations [Minimal Group Experiment and Social Identity Theory, Relative Deprivation Theory, Realistic Conflict Theory, Balance Theories, Equity



Theory, Social Exchange Theory] Applied social psychology: Health, Environment and Law; Personal space, crowding, and territoriality.

**8. Human Development and Interventions Developmental processes:** Nature, Principles, Factors in development, Stages of Development. Successful aging. Theories of development: Psychoanalytical, Behavioristic, and Cognitive Various aspects of development: Sensory-motor, cognitive, language, emotional, social and moral. Psychopathology: Concept, Mental Status Examination, Classification, Causes Psychotherapies: Psychoanalysis, Person-centered, Gestalt, Existential, Acceptance Commitment Therapy, Behavior therapy, REBT, CBT, MBCT, Play therapy, Positive psychotherapy, Transactional Analysis, Dialectic behavior therapy, Art therapy, Performing Art Therapy, Family therapy. Applications of theories of motivation and learning in School Factors in educational achievement Teacher effectiveness Guidance in schools: Needs, organizational set up and techniques Counselling: Process, skills, and techniques

**9. Emerging Areas Issues of Gender, Poverty, Disability, and Migration:** Cultural bias and discrimination. Stigma, Marginalization, and Social Suffering; Child Abuse and Domestic violence. Peace psychology: Violence, non-violence, conflict resolution at macro level, role of media in conflict resolution. Wellbeing and self-growth: Types of wellbeing [Hedonic and Eudemonic], Character strengths, Resilience and Post-Traumatic Growth. Health: Health promoting and health compromising behaviors, Life style and Chronic diseases [Diabetes, Hypertension, Coronary Heart Disease], Psychoneuroimmunology [Cancer, HIV/AIDS] Psychology and technology interface: Digital learning; Digital etiquette: Cyber bullying; Cyber pornography: Consumption, implications; Parental mediation of Digital Usage.

