

Ph.D. Course Work Examination- 2026
Subject: Women's Studies
Course I: Research Methodology and Techniques

Time : 4 hours

Total Marks: 80

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin

Answer question no. 1 and three other questions taking one from each part:

1. "Arguments against quantitative methods is a rejection of abstraction and a dichotomization of methodologies, both of which are inconsistent with feminist insights"- Critically discuss after Sprague and Zimmerman 20

Part A

2. Distinguish between quantitative and qualitative research methods. What is meant by 'Research Questions'? Discuss the different types of research questions with suitable examples. 8+2+10=20
3. What do you understand by research design? Discuss the different types of research designs with suitable examples. 5+15=20

Part B

4. What do you mean by the measures of dispersion? Discuss the different measures with examples. 5+15=20
5. Compare and Contrast (any two): 10+10=20
 - a. The four types of data
 - b. Sampling distribution and standard errors
 - c. Concept of T-test and Z-test.

Part C

6. How does feminist epistemology differ from mainstream/malestream epistemology? Critically discuss the concepts of objectivity, subjectivity and relativism as competing paths for truth. 8+12=20
7. What is meant by ethnographic research? What are the concerns and dilemmas in doing feminist ethnographic research? Discuss 8+12=20

05/06/25

Ph.D. Course Work Examination- 2025
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Answer any four questions

Part A: Scientific Social Research

1. What are the various components of social research? Discuss the concept of research design with suitable examples. 5+15
2. Attempt a feminist critique of the positivist approach to doing social research. Critically discuss the merits of both quantitative and qualitative research. What do you understand by a Critical Quantitative Methodology? 8+8+4

Part B: Statistics

3. What do you mean by the measures of central tendency? Discuss the different measures with examples. 5+15
4. What is sampling? What are the different methods of sampling? Discuss each method briefly. 5+3+12

Part C: Feminist Methodology

5. Critically discuss how elements of postmodern thought present both problems and opportunities for feminist research? 20
6. What are oral histories? What are the concerns and dilemmas in conducting Oral Histories for doing feminist research? Explain and examine. 8+12

Ph.D. Course Work Examination- 2024
Subject: Women's Studies
Course I: Research Methodology and Techniques

Time : 4 hours

Total Marks: 80

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin

Answer question no. 1 and three other questions taking one from each part:

1. Distinguish between conceptual framework and theoretical framework. How do these relate to a research study? Illustrate with suitable examples. 6+14

Part A

- 2.a) Critically discuss the postulations of Thomas Kuhn and Karl Popper on the evolution of scientific knowledge. 20
- 2.b) Distinguish between quantitative and qualitative research methods. What is meant by 'Research Questions'? Discuss the different types of research questions with suitable examples. 8+2+10

Part B: Statistics

- 3a). What do you mean by the measures of dispersion? Discuss the different measures with examples. 5+15
- 3b). Compare and Contrast (any two): 10+10
- i. The four types of data
 - ii. Sampling distribution and standard errors
 - iii. Concept of T-test and Z-test.

Part C: Feminist Methodology

- 4.a) . How does feminist epistemology differ from mainstream/malestream epistemology? What are the main traditions of feminist epistemology? Can politically value-laden research produce more complete and less distorted social analysis? Discuss. 5+10+5
- 4.b). What is meant by ethnographic research? What are the concerns and dilemmas in doing feminist ethnographic research? Discuss. 8+12