

SYLLABUS FOR PhD QUALIFYING EXAMINATION (HISTORY)
PAPER 1 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1. Scientific method in History

Scientific Method-Observation, Analysis, Inference and verification- Fact and Evidence- Nature of Sources- Compilation and Classification of data- Internal and External Criticism, Causality – generalization –formulation of an argument- Subjectivity and Objectivity

2. The Object of Historical Enquiry

The past in relation with the present-Space and Time- Structure and Process- Question of Agency-Text and Context- Knowledge and Power- material Culture-State and Civil Society –Ideology- Micro and Macro-histories

3. Mode of Historical Analysis

Problem of Methodological Devices- empiricism –Structuralism and Functionalism- Historical Materialism- Discourse analysis- New Historicism- Narrative and Oral History Gender studies – History and Contemporary social Science.

4. Skills of a Historian

Skills in Source analysis-mastery of Languages-Skills in Content Analysis- Quantitative skills- Skills in Qualitative analysis –Skills in Using existing database- Archeology- Epigraphy-coins-Libraries-archives- private collections – Computers and Internet.

Selected Readings.

1. Arthur Marwick : New Nature of History
2. J. Coben and E. Nagel: Introduction to Logic and Scientific Method
3. Patrick Gardiner: Nature of Historical Explanation
4. Richard Evans: In Defence of History
5. J.Le Goff and P. Nora (Eds): Constructing the past: Essays in Historical Methodology
6. L. Marshak: Nature of Historical Enquiry
7. Peter Bsurke: New Perspectives in Historical Writing
8. B. Tuchman: Practising History
9. J. Vansina: the Oral Tradition: an Introduction to Historical Methodology.

Ph. D (PRELIMINARY QUALIFYING) EXAMINATION, JANUARY
2015

(Course Work)

History

Paper I – Research Methodology

Time: Three Hours
Marks

Maximum: 70

Section A (Essays)

Answer any two of the following

Each question carries 20 marks

1. Trace the relation between 'facts' and "Interpretation".
2. Write on the assumption of historical materialism as a tool of understanding the past.
3. Discuss the theoretical and procedural difference between internal and external criticism.
4. What is new historicism? Do you think that it is a powerful mode of historical analysis?

(2 x 20 = 40)

Section B

5. Discuss the role of auxiliary sciences in historical research.
6. How do electronic media help historical research?
7. Examine the limitations of objectivity in historical writing.
8. What is the need of interdisciplinary approach in history.
9. Bring-out the changes gender studies broughtout in historical analysis.
10. Consider structuralism as a theory of history.
11. Situate the role of micro history in generating non-conventional sources.
12. What is causation in History? How do you situate determinism and accidents-in casual explanation.

(5 x 6 = 30)