

Syllabus

Panjab University, Chandigarh

SOC R 439 : Methods and Techniques in Social Research

Objective

Students in this Semester are supported to do field work as a part of this Course. Hence, the Course familiarizes the students with basic elements of scientific method, apart from the process of field work, data collection and finally report writing. This course trains the students as to how to draw influences and conclusions out of empirical research.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PAPER-SETTER AND THE CANDIDATES

- (i) The theory question paper will be of 80 marks and 20 marks will be for internal assessment. Duration of the paper will be 3 hours.
- (ii) For private candidates, who have not been assessed earlier for internal assessment, the marks secured by them in theory paper will proportionately be increased to maximum marks of the paper in lieu of internal assessment.

The paper setter must put note (ii) in the question paper.

The syllabus has been divided into four units.

There shall be 9 questions in all. The first question is **compulsory** and shall be short answer type containing 10 short questions spread over the whole syllabus to be answered in about 30 to 35 words each, carrying 20 marks i.e. 2 marks each. Rest of the paper shall contain 4 units. Each unit shall have **two** long questions and the candidates shall be given internal choice of attempting one question from each Unit - 4 in all. Each question will carry 15 marks.

Unit-I

Scientific Method

- (i) Definition and Aims : Explanation; Generalization; Prediction; Control
- (ii) Basic Elements : Concepts, Constructs, Hypotheses, Fact, Theory
- (iii) Induction and Deduction

Unit-II

Field Work :

Meaning and Uses

Techniques of Data Collection :

- * Observation : Structured and Unstructured; Participant and Non-Participant
- * Interview Schedule : Structured and Unstructured
- * Interview : Types; Advantages and Disadvantages
- * Questionnaire : Types; Advantages and Disadvantages
- * Case Study : Content Analysis
- * Data Analysis : Coding, Tabulation and Report Writing

Unit-III

Measurement and Scaling :

- * Measurement : Meaning, Levels, Indices, Operationalization, Problems
- * Scaling Techniques - Thurstone, Likert, Guttman and Bogardus Scales
- Reliability and Validity of Scales

Unit-IV

Research Design :

- * Exploratory, Descriptive, Experimental, Quasi-experimental, Comparative, Longitudinal and Panel Studies
- * Problems of Experimental Studies in Social Research