


# Department of Applied Psychology


Syllabus for Pre PhD Entrance Exam

(2022-23)


Unit	
1	<p><b>Emergence of Psychology</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 (<i>avidya</i> and <i>vidya</i>). The primacy of self-knowledge in Indian psychology.</p>
2	<p><b>Research Methodology and Statistics</b></p> <p>Research: Meaning, Purpose, and Dimensions.</p> <p>Research problems, Variables and Operational Definitions, Hypothesis, Sampling.</p> <p>Ethics in conducting and reporting research</p> <p>Paradigms of research: Quantitative, Qualitative, Mixed methods approach</p> <p>Methods of research: Observation, Survey [Interview, Questionnaires], Experimental, Quasi-experimental, Field studies, Cross-Cultural Studies, Phenomenology, Grounded theory, Focus groups, Narratives, Case studies, Ethnography</p> <p>Statistics in Psychology: Measures of Central Tendency and Dispersion. Normal Probability Curve. Parametric [t-test] and Non-parametric tests [Sign Test, Wilcoxon Signed rank test, Mann-Whitney test, Kruskal-Wallis test, Friedman]. Power analysis. Effect size.</p> <p>Correlational Analysis: Correlation [Product Moment, Rank Order], Partial correlation, multiple correlation.</p> <p>Special Correlation Methods: Biserial, Point biserial, tetrachoric, phi coefficient.</p> <p>Regression: Simple linear regression, Multiple regression.</p> <p>Factor analysis: Assumptions, Methods, Rotation and Interpretation.</p> <p>Experimental Designs: ANOVA [One-way, Factorial], Randomized Block Designs, Repeated Measures Design, Latin Square, Cohort studies, Time series, MANOVA, ANCOVA. Single-subject designs.</p>
3	<p><b>Psychological testing</b></p>

  
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	<p>Types of tests  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.</p>
4	<p><b>Biological basis of behavior</b></p> <p>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]</p>
5	<p><b>Attention, Perception, Learning, Memory and Forgetting</b></p> <p>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</p>

  
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	<p>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</p>
6	<p><b>Thinking, Intelligence and Creativity</b></p> <p>Theoretical perspectives on thought processes: Associationism, Gestalt, Informational 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 &amp; Parrila Creativity: Torrance, Getzels &amp; Jackson, Guilford, Wallach &amp; Kogan Relationship between Intelligence and Creativity</p>
7	<p><b>Personality, Motivation, emotion, stress and coping</b></p> <p>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].</p>
8	<p><b>Social Psychology</b></p> <p>Nature, scope and history of social psychology Traditional theoretical perspectives: Field theory, Cognitive Dissonance, Sociobiology, Psychodynamic Approaches, Social Cognition.</p>

  
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social 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.

9 **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

10 **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.

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