

# Information for Shortlisted candidates

## PhD Admission Process 2018-19

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Dear Candidate

Congratulations for being shortlisted for further stages of admission into the PhD Programme at Department of Humanistics Studies, IIT(BHU).

Please find below the list of subject wise research areas and syllabus for written test leading to the further evaluation of your candidature for the PhD programme in the Department of Humanistics Studies IIT(BHU). Each subject area may have different requirements. Therefore, candidates are advised to go through the following topics from their choice of research area and appear for the written test in their chosen field.

*Please email your preferred research area for written test to [office.hss@iitbhu.ac.in](mailto:office.hss@iitbhu.ac.in) along with your registration number and name by April 28, 2018.*

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## SUBJECT WISE RESEARCH AREAS - 2018 PhD ADMISSIONS

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Source: [https://iitbhu.ac.in/sites/default/files/institute/2018/misc/inf\\_brochure.pdf](https://iitbhu.ac.in/sites/default/files/institute/2018/misc/inf_brochure.pdf)

### **OTHER DISCIPLINES**

This year, we are offering admission in above research areas. Candidates with background in disciplines other than those specified above, would be required to opt from one of the above research areas.

### **LINGUISTICS**

Computational Linguistics (MT, CALL, Computational Semantics, Grammar Formalism, Sanskrit Computational Linguistics)

### **LITERATURE**

English

### **PHILOSOPHY**

Indian and Western Logic, Peace and Ahimsa Studies, Gandhian Philosophy, Value Education, Humanistic Philosophy

### **PSYCHOLOGY**

Intelligence, Indigenous Research, Macro Organizational Behaviour

### **SOCIOLOGY**

Environmental Sociology, Sustainable Urbanization, Smart Cities

# SYLLABUS FOR DIFFERENT SUBJECT AREAS - 2018 PhD ADMISSIONS

## LINGUISTICS

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The paper would consist of three sections:-

**Section A: 30 marks**

Multiple choice type questions consisting of verbal and non-verbal reasoning, language proficiency and subject-related topics.

**Section B: 40 marks**

Data analysis (primarily related to phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics).

**Section C: 30 marks**

Fundamental concepts in Linguistics and Computational Linguistics

## LITERATURE

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### ENGLISH

There will be three sections in the question paper for the Ph. D. admission test.

**Section-A** will consist of 30 objective type questions aimed at testing the research aptitude of candidates.

1. Comprehension, analysis, evaluation, classification, and definition
2. Understanding the structure of arguments
3. Deductive and inductive reasoning
4. Weighing evidence with special reference to analogical arguments and inductive generalization
5. Avoiding logical inconsistency arising due to ambiguity and vagueness in language
6. Acquaintance with the nature of a concept, meaning and criteria of truth, and the source of knowledge.

**Section-B** will have 30 objective type questions aimed at testing knowledge of the subject.

**Section-C** is aimed at evaluating the critical thinking and writing skills of the candidates who will be asked to answer any two of the four analytical questions based on the subject.

Following is an indicative list of subtopics for this section B & C:

1. English Literature from Chaucer to the present day.
2. Other Literatures in English
3. Indian Literatures
4. Literary criticism and theories
5. Literary appreciation
6. Rhetorical devices

## OTHER DISCIPLINES

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The test would consist of three sections:-

### Section A - Research Aptitude (30 marks)

This section would comprise of questions from research in general and research methodologies from social sciences. This section would comprise of questions from research in general and research methodologies from social sciences. This section is aimed at testing the general research aptitude of candidates. The indicative list of topics for this section is given below:

1. Foundations - Language Of Research, Five Big Words, Types of Questions, Time in Research, Types of Relationships, Variables, Hypotheses, Types of Data, Unit of Analysis, Two Research Fallacies, Philosophy of Research (Structure of Research, Deduction & Induction, Positivism & Post-Positivism), Introduction to Validity, Ethics in Research, Conceptualizing (Problem Formulation, Concept Mapping), Evaluation Research (Introduction to Evaluation, The Planning-Evaluation Cycle, An Evaluation Culture)
2. Sampling - External Validity, Sampling Terminology, Statistical Terms in Sampling, Probability Sampling, Non Probability Sampling
3. Measurement - Construct Validity (Measurement Validity Types, Idea of Construct Validity, Convergent & Discriminant Validity, Threats to Construct Validity, The Nomological Network), Reliability (True Score Theory, Measurement Error, Theory of Reliability, Types of Reliability, Reliability & Validity), Levels of Measurement, Survey Research (Types of Surveys, Selecting the Survey Method, Constructing the Survey, Interviews, Plus & Minus of Survey Methods), Scaling (General Issues in Scaling), Qualitative Measures (The Qualitative Debate, Qualitative Data, Qualitative Approaches, Qualitative Methods, Qualitative Validity), Unobtrusive Measures
4. Design - Internal Validity, Establishing Cause & Effect, Single Group Threats (Regression to the Mean), Multiple Group Threats, Social Interaction Threats, Introduction to Design, Types of Designs, Experimental Design (Two-Group Experimental Designs: Probabilistic Equivalence/Random Selection & Assignment, Classifying Experimental Designs, Factorial Designs: Factorial Design Variations, Randomized Block Designs, Covariance Designs, Hybrid Experimental Designs), Quasi-Experimental Design (The Nonequivalent Groups Design, The Regression-Discontinuity Design, Other Quasi-Experimental Designs), Relationships Among Pre-Post Designs, Designing Designs for Research, Advances in Quasi-Experimentation
5. Analysis - Conclusion Validity (Threats to Conclusion Validity, Improving Conclusion Validity, Statistical Power), Data Preparation, Basic Descriptive Statistics (Correlation), Basic Inferential Statistics

*Reference: Trochin William M.K., Social Research Knowledge Base,  
<http://www.socialresearchmethods.net/kb/contents.php>*

### Section B - Subject Specific (30+40 = 70 marks)

This section would comprise of questions from Philosophy of Science and Engineering in general and some questions from particular research areas (see original notification/brochure for PhD programme for list of all research topics being offered this year).

### Section C - General Subjective Assessment

This section would comprise of subjective questions to understand candidate's worldview and his or her perspective towards research. Further, to understand their personal as well as professional objective(s) behind research in general as well as in particular, the subject area chosen (see original notification/brochure for PhD programme for list of all research topics being offered this year). It is also aimed at evaluating the critical thinking and writing skills of the candidates. The questions in this section are not intended to mark them on their correctness, therefore, this section would be subjectively assessed and may form the basis for possible discussion(s) in later stages of admission process.

## PHILOSOPHY

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The test would consist of three sections:-

### **Section A - Research Aptitude (30 marks)**

This section would comprise of questions from research in general and research methodologies from social sciences. This section is aimed at testing the general research aptitude of candidates. The indicative list of topics for this section is mentioned under Section A of "OTHER DISCIPLINES" above.

### **Section B - Subject Specific(30 + 40 = 70 marks)**

This section is aimed at testing the candidates' knowledge of topics from philosophy. This section would have thirty objective questions carrying 30 marks and four subjective questions carrying 40 marks. Following is an indicative list of subtopics for this section:

1. Gandhian Philosophy
2. The Philosophy of Nonviolence
3. Research and literature
4. Humanistic Philosophy
5. The Nyaya System of Indian Philosophy
6. Universal Human Values and Indian Philosophy

### **Section C - Subjective Assessment**

This section would comprise of subjective questions to understand candidate's worldview and his or her perspective towards research. Further, to understand their personal as well as professional objective(s) behind research in general as well as in particular, the subject area chosen (see original notification/brochure for PhD programme for list of all research topics being offered this year). It is also aimed at evaluating the critical thinking and writing skills of the candidates. The questions in this section are not intended to mark them on their correctness, therefore, this section would be subjectively assessed and may form the basis for possible discussion(s) in later stages of admission process.

## PSYCHOLOGY

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The test would consist of three sections:-

### **Section A - Research Aptitude (30 marks)**

This section would comprise of questions from research in general and research methodologies from social sciences. This section is aimed at testing the general research aptitude of candidates. The indicative list of topics for this section is mentioned under Section A of "OTHER DISCIPLINES" above.

### **Section B - Subject Specific (30+40 = 70 marks)**

This section would comprise of questions from psychology in general and some questions from particular research areas (see original notification/brochure for PhD programme for list of all research topics being offered this year). This section would have thirty objective questions carrying 30 marks and four subjective questions carrying 40 marks. Following is an indicative list of subtopics for this section:

1. Organization Theory: History, Organizational Aspects (Environment, Structure, Technology, Culture), New Directions in Organizational Theory
2. Introduction: Introduction to Organizations and Organizational Behaviour, National Culture and its impact on Organizational Behaviour, Changes in Organizational Context and Challenges for Organizations, VUCA (Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, Ambiguity) Context and its impact
3. Understanding Individuals: Perception and Attribution, Shaping attitudes at work, Motivation, Personality, Intelligence (Theories of Intelligence)
4. Understanding Groups: Thresholds of Interpersonal Behaviour, Understanding Groups and Teams, Exploring communication as a behavioural process, Managing Conflict/Stress and Negotiation, Understanding Decision-making as a process, Understanding power and Organizational Politics
5. Understanding How Organizations shape behaviour: Effectiveness of Organizational Design, Creating structure to support effective behaviour, Exploring organizational Roles, Understanding Organizational Culture, Understanding Leaders and the basic concepts in leadership, Leading the change and organizational effectiveness
6. Technology and its impact on organizations in different ways and at different levels, Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Human Intelligence and Organizational Intelligence

### **Section C - Subjective Assessment**

This section would comprise of subjective questions to understand candidate's worldview and his or her perspective towards research. Further, to understand their personal as well as professional objective(s) behind research in general as well as in particular, the subject area chosen (see original notification/brochure for PhD programme for list of all research topics being offered this year). It is also aimed at evaluating the critical thinking and writing skills of the candidates. The questions in this section are not intended to mark them on their correctness, therefore, this section would be subjectively assessed and may form the basis for possible discussion(s) in later stages of admission process.

## SOCIOLOGY

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The test would consist of three sections:

### Section A - Research Aptitude (30 marks)

This section would comprise of questions from research in general and research methodologies from social sciences. This section is aimed at testing the general research aptitude of candidates. The indicative list of topics for this section is mentioned under Section A of "OTHER DISCIPLINES" above.

### Section B - Subject Specific (30+40=70 marks)

This section is aimed at testing the subject knowledge of topics like Sociology of Environment, Development and Urban Sociology. This section would have thirty objective questions carrying 30 marks and four subjective questions carrying 40 marks. Following is an indicative list of subtopics for this section:

1. Introduction to Environmental Studies:
  - a. Atmosphere: structure and composition. Air pollutants and their emission sources. Aerosols and Smogs. Air quality standards. Tropospheric ozone. Air pollution in Indian cities.
  - b. Water: quantity and quality. Parameters and standards; Demands. Rain water chemistry. Surface and subsurface waters in India. Environmental hotspots related to water in India.
  - c. Soil and Land use: climate and soil profile, petrography and mineral matters in soil. Soil classification. Soil distribution in India. Land use in India. Impact of soil loss and land cover on biogeochemical cycle.
  - d. Biodiversity. Problems and issues in biodiversity and forestry. Conservation and utilization of biodiversity.
  - e. Global warming and climate change. Recent records of climate change. Impact of climate change on Indian environment. Measures to cope with climate change.
2. Sociology of Environment and Development:
  - a. Social Perspectives on Environment
  - b. Theories and Perspectives on Development
  - c. Concept of Heritage: Natural and Social
  - d. Environment and Ecology, Social Ecology, Impact of ecology on Social Life
  - e. Issues Concerning Environment and Development: Pollution, Desertification, Water Depletion
  - f. Planned Development and Society
  - g. Environmental governance and Institutions: State, community, commons; Global environmental governance (problems, institutions, policies, politics)
  - h. Technology, Environment and Society
  - i. Gender and Environment
3. Urban Sociology: Nature, Scope and Approaches.
  - a. Concept of City: Ecological, Sociological. Smart Cities
  - b. Origin and Growth of Urban Centers, Types of Cities, Urbanism As a way of life, Rural-Urban continuum.
  - c. Urban Ecology : Ecological Theories of urban growth.
  - d. Urban Ecosystem, Solid Waste Management, Sanitation and Health, Health care facilities, Water urbanism.
  - e. Urbanization and Social Change: Migration, Urbanization, Industrialization in India.
  - f. Urban Institution: Family, Religion, Neighbourhood.
  - g. Urban Power Structure with special reference to Indian Society.
  - h. Urban Planning and Restructuring of Indian Cities.
  - i. Urban Slums and Floating Population.

### Section C - Subjective Assessment

This section would comprise of subjective questions to understand candidate's worldview and his or her perspective towards research. Further, to understand their personal as well as professional objective(s) behind research in general



as well as in particular, the subject area chosen (see original notification/brochure for PhD programme for list of all research topics being offered this year). It is also aimed at evaluating the critical thinking and writing skills of the candidates. The questions in this section are not intended to mark them on their correctness, therefore, this section would be subjectively assessed and may form the basis for possible discussion(s) in later stages of admission process.