

Sample Question Paper
Sub-discipline: Interdisciplinary

The entrance exam for the Interdisciplinary PhD requires candidates to appear for:

- A. Research Methodology MCQ exam (Mandatory)
- B. Subjective Written Exam: Two descriptive questions.
 - B1: Mandatory question: will explore the candidate's area of interest and its interdisciplinary connections.
 - B2: Choice-based question: Candidates are expected to respond to contemporary complex and 'wicked problems' through an interdisciplinary approach. The candidates can situate their responses within their specialisation while integrating related/pertinent concepts and theories.

Time allotted: *One Hour*

Marks Allotted: *50*

Rubric and Expectations: *The essay-type questions will examine the candidate's ability to:*

- *Critical analysis of the phenomenon and communication of one's ideas. (7.5 Marks)*
 - *Demonstration of in-depth understanding of disciplinary knowledge and critical thinking with an interdisciplinary approach. (7.5 Marks)*
 - *Familiarity with critical concepts and theoretical approaches. (5 Marks)*
 - *Coherent, well-structured argument, with a clear thesis and logical progression of ideas. (5 Marks)*
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B1: Mandatory question: will explore the candidate's area of interest and its interdisciplinary connections. (25 Marks)

B2: Answer any one of the following (25 Marks)

1. How do intersections of caste, gender, class, and nation shape both the production and reception of knowledge within literary and oral forms, and what implications does this have for rethinking 'literature' as a category within cultural studies? (Knowledge systems: politics and identity)
2. In the context of large-scale data-driven AI- systems, what constitutes "informed consent"? Evaluate this question with reference to data extraction practices in the Global South. (AI, research and ethics)
3. How do diverse life experiences such as local practices or material evidence, show how communities adapt to environmental and climate challenges? Discuss possible community-based interventions for sustainable practices. (Experiences of human diversity)
4. Contextualise the importance of traditional public health approaches with the One Health model in managing pandemics. (One health - Integrated Interdisciplinary approach to global health security)
5. Socio-technical systems capture human-technology interaction. Explain this statement by using an interdisciplinary approach and relevant examples. (Society and science)