



Diamond Harbour Women's University

Department of Women's Studies

PhD Course Work in 'Women's Studies'

GENERAL INSTRUCTION WITH REGARD TO Ph.D. COURSE WORK AND COURSE-END EXAMINATION

1. Each Ph.D. student has to complete a course work of six months duration. There are three courses consisting of 200 marks and 08 credits.
3. There are two compulsory papers, namely, Research Methodology (WMS/PhD/CC/101) and Feminist Thoughts and Issues: Concepts in Women's Studies (WMS/PhD/CC/102) which all Ph.D. students have to study.
4. Each student has to study one elective paper.
6. Each candidate has to prepare a dissertation project and submit it at the semester end examination.
7. A course end examination will be held and it is to be conducted by the University.
8. A student must obtain 50% marks in the course work examination to qualify.

ACADEMIC SYLLABUS

2 Core Courses (CC) - 100 marks

1 Open Elective (OE) - 100 marks

Course Code	Title of the Course	Lecture Hours per Week	Credit	Total Marks
WMS/PhD/CC/101	Research Methodology	2	2	Internal Assessment-10 Semester Examination-40
WMS/PhD/CC/102	Feminist Thoughts and Issues: Concepts in Women's Studies	2	2	Internal Assessment-10 Semester Examination-40
WMS/PhD/OE (Any one course to be selected by the candidate)	Gender and Literature	4	4	Theory-50 marks Literature Review-25 marks, Presentation-25 Marks
	Gender and Media Studies			
	Human Rights and Women's Rights			
	Gender, Law and Violence			
TOTAL		8	8	200

Core Course: Research Methodology [Marks- 50]

The aim of the paper is to acquaint the researcher with the tools of research by exposing them to the mechanics of writing a dissertation.

Unit I: Concepts and Methodological Issues in Research

1. Making connections: The relationship between epistemology and research; Demystifying Ontology and Epistemology in Research Methods
2. Positivism and Empiricism in research, Difference between Constructionist-Hermeneutic research
3. Problem with Empirical Theory
4. Ethics in research

Unit II: Basic Issues in Research

1. Meaning of research; Objectives of research; Research Design and Research Process: Types of Designs: Causal Designs, Experimental Designs and Exploratory Designs; Links between Theory and Research.
2. Methods of Data Collection
 - Qualitative Methods- Case Study, Focus group Field Research, Archival study,
 - Quantitative Methods – Survey method, Experimental method
3. Data Analysis and Interpretation; Writing research report
4. Basic Computer Applications- use of software for quantitative and qualitative data analysis

Unit III: Feminism and research

1. The Origin and Goal of Feminist Research: Empowerment and Emancipation; Role Research in Women's Studies / Feminist Research in India; National and international statistical resources for the study of women and gender.
 2. Research in Women's Studies: Critique of Natural Science Research, Social Science Research and Research in Humanities, Borrowing and Sharing with other Disciplines.
 3. Characteristics of feminist research and feminist research methodology, Key methodological and epistemological debates within women's studies.
 4. Reading selected texts from following categories: ethnography, oral history, life narratives (with special emphasis on Indian women's autobiographies and memoirs), event narratives, testimonies, verbal art, speaking texts, songs.
-

Core Course: Feminist Thoughts and Issues: Concepts in Women's Studies [Marks-50]

1. Trajectory of Women's Movements: West and the East
2. Different Schools of Feminist Thought with reference to different Waves of Feminism
3. Gender, Sexuality, Patriarchy and Queer Identities
4. Women and Work: Autonomy and Empowerment
5. Women and Development with reference to different policies
6. Women and Health with reference to various reproductive and child care programmes
7. Women, Ecology and Environment
8. Women and Culture

Proposed special paper for PhD in Women's Studies

1. Gender and Literature
2. Gender and Media Studies
3. Human Rights and Women's Rights
4. Gender, Law and Violence

[Total Marks- 100- Marks distribution- Theory-50 marks, Literature Review - 25 marks, Presentation – 25 Marks]

I. Gender and Literature

1. Women in/(and) literary history
2. Gender, Class and Political Identity
3. The Politics of Language
4. Religion and Gender Identity
5. Writing from the Margins
6. Modernism-Postmodernism and Literary Expressions

II. Gender and Media Studies

1. Gender and Popular Culture
2. Relationship between Media and Gender
3. Gender Stereotyping in Media
4. Relationship between Gender, Spatiality and Consumption in advertisement
5. Interrelationship between Gender, Entitlement, Performativity and Agency
6. Gender in Electronic and Print Media
7. Breaking the Stereotypes: Women in Media- Challenges Ahead

III. Human Rights and Women's Rights

Unit I: Understanding the Concept of Rights

1. Meaning, nature and definition, Classification of rights
2. History of human rights civilization - Magna Carta, British Bill of Rights, American Declaration of Independence, Declaration of Rights of Man and Citizen, International Bill of Rights
3. Theories of Rights :- Natural Rights Theory, Legal/Positivist Theory, Liberal Theory, Marxist Theory, Cultural Theory, Sociological theory

Unit II: Gender and Human Rights

1. Status of Women in Contemporary Indian Society - Poverty, illiteracy, lack of independence, patriarchy, oppressive social custom, gender bias, domestic violence, sexual harassment, in private and public domain
2. Human Rights and Women's movement in India : History and contemporary
3. Constitutional mechanism and Women's Right: legislature. Executive and judiciary, Statutory mechanism: national commission of Women, Role of NGOS, media
4. Special laws and policies for protection of women - Suppression of immoral traffic act.1956, Equal remuneration act.1976, Dowry prohibition act,1961, The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005, Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.
5. International norms for protection of Women UN Convention on elimination of all forms of discrimination against women,1975, UN Convention on political rights of Women,1952, Four world conference of women: Mexico 1975, Copenhagen 1980, Nairobi 1985, Beijing 1995.

IV. Gender, Law and Violence

Unit I: Gender and Violence – Feminist Perspectives

1. Violence from Sociological, Legal and Historical Perspective; Public/Private Divide and Understanding Violence
2. Is Violence Gendered? Theories of Masculinity and Violence

Unit II: State Violence on Women and Laws and Procedures

1. Custodial Violence and Rape—Laws

2. Violence including Rape in Conflict areas – Kashmir, North East India, West Bengal; Debate over the Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958.

Unit III: Domestic and Everyday Violence

1. Intimate Partner Violence
2. Domestic Violence – including Dowry
3. Marital Rape, Sexual Assault/Harassment

Unit IV: Law, State and Gender

1. Creation of a Colonial Law – the Penal Code and the Personal Laws
 2. Social Reforms and Law
 3. Judiciary and Mechanisms/Institutions of Dispute Resolutions
 4. Feminist Jurisprudence, Women's Rights and Law Reform
-