

2026

SOCIOLOGY

Course No. : SOC/C-05

(Methodology of Social Research)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

The questions are of equal value

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

Answer any *five* questions

1. a) What is social research? Explain the research process and evaluate the significance of each stage in producing reliable knowledge. 4+8

Or

- b) Describe the major features of Interpretive research. How does Interpretivism understand social reality, meaning, and human action? 4+8

2. a) What is explanatory research design? Describe its characteristics, steps involved, and its application in social science research. 4+8

Or

- b) Explain sampling methods in social science research. Highlight the significance of probability sampling in conducting reliable social science research. 6+6

(Turn Over)

- 3 a) Explain the concept of Descriptive Analysis in research. Discuss its importance, characteristics, and limitations with suitable examples from social science research.

Or

- b) Calculate the mean, median and mode for the number of absent days of Sociology students in academic semester 2026.

Absent days	0-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25
No. of Students	8	7	8	13	15

Absent days	25-30	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50
No. of Students	12	6	10	18	2

4. a) Discuss the various methods of data collection in social science research. Highlight their merits and limitations with suitable examples.

Or

- b) Explain the concept of mixed-methods research. How can quantitative and qualitative data be integrated during different stages of research (design, data collection, development, expansion, analysis, and interpretation)? Discuss in detail.

5. a) What is Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)? Describe its key techniques and evaluate its role in empowering rural communities in social science research.

Or

- b) Discuss the role of data processing and data analysis in social science research. How do these steps contribute to accurate interpretation of results?

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