

TUMKUR UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF STUDIES AND RESEARCH IN ENGLISH

**PhD Entrance Syllabus: Research Methodology and
Core/Cognate Subject (2017)**

Research Methodology

- ✓ What is research? Research as a problem solving activity; aim of research; the idea of hypothesis and research question; the role of theory. What all a good research involves? An ideal way of identifying a research topic. Formulating a research question and other related topics.
- ✓ Research in the Humanities: Theory and practice in the Human Sciences
- ✓ Argumentation Theory
- ✓ Methods and Methodology; framework, review of literature, chapterization, bibliography, MLA, and other style sheets, plagiarism, etc.
- ✓ Research Skills: Cognitive; Research writing, and reading for research; Editing Skills; Discourse Analysis; Citation styles, Reference, Bibliography, Appendix; Use of web resources and applications

Core/Cognate Subject

History of English literature from the beginning to the contemporary period: major authors, texts and movements from Geoffrey Chaucer to T S Eliot and the present day.

Renaissance Humanism, Enlightenment, Romanticism and Modernism.

Gender Studies: major concepts, literary and polemical texts

American Literature with special reference to transcendentalism and American Dream: American Poetry, Prose and Fiction

Asian Literature; the idea of Asia and literatures of India; Works of Sheldon Pollock and David Shulman

Literary and Critical Theory: from Plato and Aristotle to the contemporary period: New Criticism, Formalism, Structuralism, Post-structuralism, Postcolonialism, New Historicism, etc.

Cultural Studies; Major Theories and Concepts.

European Literature: Major authors and texts from Europe from classical age to the contemporary period

Teaching English Language and Literature: language learning theories and methods

Note:

- The aim is to test the competence of the candidates rather than their performance in the examination. Questions shall be more of heuristic nature than factual.
- Identification of correct answer is governed not by individual interpretations and exceptions but by universal acceptance and current usage. What appears to be correct may not be marked ahead of what is correct. Hence, choose the appropriate answer from among the alternatives that follow the questions.
- The details in the syllabus are only indicators and not specificities.