

Computer Science and Engineering PhD Entrance Syllabus

1. Research Methodology

1. **Introduction to Research:** Meaning and importance of Research Types of Research Research Design and Stages Selection and Formulation of Research Problem, Objective(s) and Hypothesis Developing Research Plan – Exploration, Description, Diagnosis, Experimentation, Determining Experimental and Sample Design.
2. **Data Collection:** Sources of Data – Primary and Secondary Types of Data – Categorical (nominal and ordinal), Numerical (discrete, continuous, ratio and interval) Methods of Data Collection: Survey, Interviews (in-depth or Key Informant interviews), Focus Group Discussion (FGD), Observation, Records or Experimental Observations.
3. **Data Processing and Analysis:** Statistical Graphics – Histograms, Frequency Polygon, Ogive, Dotplots, Stemplots, Bar Graphs, Pareto Charts, Pie Charts, Scatterplots, Boxplots Descriptive Analysis – Frequency Distributions, Measures of Central Tendency, Measures of Variation/Dispersion, Skewness and Kurtosis, Measures of Relative Standing Qualitative Approaches Including Grounded Theory, Ethnography, Narrative Inquiry, Phenomenology and Case-Study.
4. **Scientific Writing:** Structure and Components of Scientific Reports – Types of Report – Technical Reports and Thesis – Significance – Different steps in the preparation – Layout, Structure and Language of Typical Reports – Illustrations and Tables – Bibliography, Referencing and Foot Notes. Preparation of the Project Proposal – Title, Abstract, Introduction – Rationale, Objectives, Methodology – Time frame and Work Plan – Budget and Justification – References.
5. **Research Ethics:** Research Ethics Committees/Institutional Review Board – Roles and Importance Intellectual Property rights – Commercialization, Royalty Reproduction of Published Material – Citation and Acknowledgement, Plagiarism.

2. Computer Science and Engineering

Section 1: Engineering Mathematics

Discrete Mathematics: Propositional and first order logic. Sets, relations, functions, partial orders and lattices. Monoids, Groups. Graphs: connectivity, matching, colouring. Combinatorics: counting, recurrence relations, generating functions. Linear Algebra: Matrices, determinants, system of linear equations, eigenvalues and eigenvectors, LU decomposition. Calculus: Limits, continuity and differentiability, Maxima and minima, Mean value theorem, Integration. Probability and Statistics: Random variables, Uniform, normal, exponential, Poisson and binomial distributions. Mean, median, mode and standard deviation. Conditional probability and Bayes theorem.

Section 2: Digital Logic

Boolean algebra. Combinational and sequential circuits. Minimization. Number representations and computer arithmetic (fixed and floating point).

Section 3: Computer Organization and Architecture

Machine instructions and addressing modes. ALU, data-path and control unit. Instruction pipelining, pipeline hazards. Memory hierarchy: cache, main memory and secondary storage; I/O interface (interrupt and DMA mode).

Section 4: Programming and Data Structures

Programming in C. Recursion. Arrays, stacks, queues, linked lists, trees, binary search trees, binary heaps, graphs.

Section 5: Algorithms

Searching, sorting, hashing. Asymptotic worst case time and space complexity. Algorithm design techniques: greedy, dynamic programming and divide-and-conquer. Graph traversals, minimum spanning trees, shortest paths. Section 6: Theory of Computation Regular expressions and finite automata. Context-free grammars and push-down automata. Regular and context-free languages, pumping lemma. Turing machines and undecidability.

Section 7: Compiler Design

Lexical analysis, parsing, syntax-directed translation. Runtime environments. Intermediate code generation. Local optimization, Data flow analyses: constant propagation, liveness analysis, common sub expression elimination.

Section 8: Operating System

System calls, processes, threads, inter-process communication, concurrency and synchronization. Deadlock. CPU and I/O scheduling. Memory management and virtual memory. File systems.

Section 9: Databases

ER-model. Relational model: relational algebra, tuple calculus, SQL. Integrity constraints, normal forms. File organization, indexing (e.g., B and B+ trees). Transactions and concurrency control.

Section 10: Computer Networks

Concept of layering: OSI and TCP/IP Protocol Stacks; Basics of packet, circuit and virtual circuit switching; Data link layer: framing, error detection, Medium Access Control, Ethernet bridging; Routing protocols: shortest path, flooding, distance vector and link state routing; Fragmentation and IP addressing, IPv4, CIDR notation, Basics of IP support protocols (ARP, DHCP, ICMP), Network Address Translation (NAT); Transport layer: flow control and congestion control, UDP, TCP, sockets; Application layer protocols: DNS, SMTP, HTTP, FTP, Email.