

**DR. BABASAHEB AMBEDKAR MARATHWADA UNIVERSITY,
CHHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR.**



Circular / Syll. Sec./ A.C. Res./ Curriculum/ 2026.

It is hereby inform to all concerned that, on the recommendation of Board of Studies; **the Academic Council at it's Meeting held on 28th July, 2026 has accepted the "Curriculum of Pre-Ph.D. Course Work as per Guidelines of University".**

This is effective from the Academic Year 2026-27 and onwards as per appended herewith.

All concerned are requested to note the contents of this circular and bring notice to the students, teachers and staff for their information and necessary action.

University campus,
Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar-431 004.
Ref. No. Syll. Sec./A.C. Res./
Curriculum/ 2026/ 221-24

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**Deputy Registrar
Syllabus Section**

Date: 31/ 07/ 2026.

Copy forwarded with necessary action to:-

- 1]- **The Head, all concerned departments,**
- 2] **The Director, University Network & Information Centre, UNIC, with a request to upload this Circular on University Website.**
- 3] **The Director, Board of Examinations & Evaluation,**
- 4] **Public Relation Officer [PRO],**

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University,
Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar.

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Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University



CHHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR-431 004, Maharashtra, India

Curriculum List of Subject Wise Pre Ph.D. Course Work under the Faculty of Humanities

Sr. No.	Curriculum/ Subject's
01.	Marathi
02.	Hindi
03.	English
04.	Urdu
05.	Sanskrit
06.	Arabic
07.	Chinese
08.	Sociology
09.	Economics
10.	History
11.	Political Science
✓ 12.	Public Administration
13.	Geography
14.	Psychology
15.	Law

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**DR. BABASAHEB AMBEDKAR MARATHWADA UNIVERSITY
CHHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR – 431001, MAHARASHTRA.**

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
BOARD OF STUDIES IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**REVISED SYLLABUS
FOR PRE-Ph.D. COURSE WORK IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

12 Credits | 200 Marks

Academic Year 2026–2027

Effective from 2026–27, subject to approval by the competent statutory authorities

Sr. No.	Programme Objectives
1.	Develop advanced competence in research methodology appropriate to Public Administration, Public Policy and Governance.
2.	Enable scholars to identify, formulate, delimit and justify significant doctoral research problems.
3.	Develop competence in literature review, theoretical and conceptual framework building, research design, sampling, measurement, data collection and analysis.
4.	Strengthen quantitative, qualitative and mixed-method research capabilities, including policy research, programme evaluation and comparative research.
5.	Develop competence in documentary, archival, historical, institutional and source-critical approaches relevant to administrative research.
6.	Provide advanced subject-specific preparation in Public Administration, Governance, Development, Public Policy, Administrative Ethics, Social Justice and Accountability.
7.	Introduce Indian administrative thought and relevant Indian Knowledge Systems as historical and conceptual resources for contemporary Public Administration research.
8.	Develop proficiency in digital research tools, scholarly databases, reference management, bibliometric methods, GIS/spatial analysis and responsible use of AI-assisted research tools.
9.	Train scholars in research proposal writing, funding applications, review research articles, seminar presentations and doctoral thesis preparation.
10.	Cultivate academic integrity, responsible authorship, ethical citation, research transparency and publication ethics.
Sr. No.	Programme Learning Outcomes
1.	Formulate researchable questions, objectives and hypotheses/propositions appropriate to Public Administration.
2.	Select and justify appropriate research designs, methods, sampling strategies and analytical techniques.
3.	Critically evaluate primary, secondary, administrative, documentary, archival, digital and policy sources.
4.	Conduct systematic and critical literature reviews and identify theoretical, empirical and methodological research gaps.
5.	Apply quantitative, qualitative and mixed-method approaches and triangulate evidence appropriately.
6.	Use digital research resources and analytical software responsibly and interpret outputs accurately.
7.	Analyze contemporary theories of Public Administration, Governance and Public Policy in relation to Indian administrative realities.
8.	Integrate historical, comparative, institutional and interdisciplinary perspectives into administrative research where relevant.
9.	Prepare research proposals, review articles, conference/seminar presentations, policy-oriented outputs and doctoral research reports.
10.	Demonstrate ethical, transparent and academically responsible research conduct.

COURSE C-1: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Credits: 4 | Marks: 100 | Hours: 60

Course Objectives

- Develop advanced research competence in Public Administration, including research design, sampling, data collection, quantitative, qualitative and mixed-method analysis, data management and responsible use of research technology.

Learning Outcomes

- Explain the nature, objectives, characteristics and major approaches of social science research.
- Formulate a research problem, research questions, objectives and hypotheses/propositions.
- Conduct a systematic literature review and identify research gaps.
- Select appropriate research designs, sampling strategies, instruments and analytical techniques.
- Apply quantitative, qualitative, mixed-method, historical, comparative, documentary and case-study approach where appropriate.
- Use scholarly databases, digital repositories, reference-management tools and basic research software responsibly.
- Prepare a coherent research proposal and understand the structure and reporting requirements of a doctoral thesis.

Module No.	Module Content	Hours
Unit I	Foundations Of Social Science Research and Research Design • Concepts of Social Science Research. • Scientific methods of research • Role of research in Governance and Public Policy, evidence-based policymaking. • Identification and formulation of research areas, research gaps and research problems. • Research questions, objectives, propositions and hypotheses. • Concepts of research design. • Literature review, theoretical and conceptual frameworks, scholarly databases, digital resources, citation and referencing. • Historical, comparative and institutional research approaches • Interdisciplinary research and the use of Indian Knowledge Systems as contextual intellectual resources.	15
Unit II	Research Methods, Sampling and Data Collection • Concepts of sampling • Census and sample survey • Probability sampling and Non-Probability Sampling methods • Sample-size determination, sampling error, non-sampling error and sampling bias. • Primary and secondary data	15

	• Data-collection methods: Questionnaire, Schedule, Interview, Observation, Focus Group Discussion and Documentary Analysis. • Measurement and scaling: Nominal, Ordinal, Interval and Ratio scales; Likert and Semantic Differential scales. • Questionnaire design, sequencing, translation, back-translation, pilot testing, pre-testing, reliability and validity. • Qualitative research: Ethnography, Case Study, Narrative Research, Grounded Theory and Phenomenology. • Content and Thematic Analysis and Mixed-Method Research,	
Unit III	Quantitative Research Methodology • Concepts of quantitative research • Deductive reasoning and hypothesis testing • Variables, attributes, indicators, measurement, scaling, reliability and validity. • Types and designs of Quantitative Research • Hypothesis formulation • Statistical concepts: Type I and Type II errors, level of significance, p-value, confidence interval. • Descriptive statistics, Data presentation and analysis • Introduction to Regression analysis and Logistic Regression, • Data management: Coding, Data Entry, Cleaning, Validation, Missing Data, use of SPSS and Excel. • Emerging quantitative applications: Bibliometric and Scientometric Analysis, Data Visualization, GIS, Meta-analysis.	15
Unit IV	Data Analysis, Research Reporting and Scholarly Communication • Data preparation: Editing, Classification, Tabulation and Verification. • Reliability, Validity and Triangulation; Internal, External, Construct, Content and Criterion-related Validity. • Research ethics and Research misconduct • Scholarly communication: Research Articles, Review Articles, Policy Briefs, Conference Papers and Research Reports; tables, graphs, figures and APA referencing. • Publication and dissemination: Journal Selection, Peer Review, Predatory Journals, Open Access and Research Impact. • Digital research methods: Online Surveys, Data Management, Systematic Reviews. • AI and emerging research practices: Responsible use of AI and Generative AI, Open Science, Research Transparency, Evidence-Based Communication, Auditable Research Trails and responsible handling of archival/digital materials.	15

Suggested Assessment Pattern – C-1

Component	Marks
End-semester / University written examination	70
Internal: assignments / research exercises	10
Internal: presentation / viva	10
Internal: research proposal-related exercise	10
TOTAL	100

COURSE C-2: RESEARCH PROPOSAL, REVIEW RESEARCH ARTICLE AND SEMINAR

Total: 3 Credits | Total Marks: 30

C-2 comprises three one-credit research activities:

1. Proposal/Funding Application,
2. Review Research Article
3. Seminar

Module No.	Module Content	Hours
C-2(A)	Writing Of Research Proposal for Financial Assistance 1 Credit 10 Marks • Selection of a research topic with academic, administrative, policy or societal significance. • Title, background and rationale of the proposed study. • Statement and delimitation of the research problem. • Research questions, objectives and hypothesis/propositions, wherever applicable. • Review of literature and identification of research gap. • Theoretical/conceptual framework. • Research design, methodology, sampling, data sources and instruments. • Plan for data analysis, interpretation and reporting. • Expected outcomes, policy/administrative relevance and scholarly contribution. • Provisional chapterisation and work plan/time schedule. • Preliminary budget and justification, where required by the funding agency. • Preliminary bibliography and ethical considerations.	15

Suggested Assessment Pattern C-2(A)

Evaluation Criterion	Marks
Topic selection, rationale and problem formulation	2
Literature review, research gap and framework	2
Objectives, methodology and feasibility	2
Expected outcomes, work plan and budget logic	2
Presentation and scholarly clarity	2
TOTAL	10

Module No.	Module Content	Hours
C-2(B)	Writing Of Review Research Article 1 Credit 10 Marks • Selection of a focused Public Administration / Public Policy / Governance research theme. • Systematic search and organisation of books, journal articles, theses, policy documents, reports and digital resources. • Critical synthesis rather than descriptive listing. • Identification of major theoretical approaches, debates, trends, methodological choices and research gaps. • Use of historical, comparative, documentary and interdisciplinary literature where relevant. • Consistent citation, referencing and academic style. • Recommended structure: Title, Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Review Strategy/Scope, Thematic or Critical Review, Debates and Research Gaps, Future Research Agenda, Conclusion and References.	15

Suggested Assessment Pattern C-2(B)

Evaluation Criterion	Marks
Scope, organisation and relevance of literature	2
Critical synthesis and analytical depth	3
Identification of debates/gaps and future agenda	2
Citation, referencing and scholarly presentation	2
Academic originality and clarity	1
TOTAL	10

Module No.	Module Content	Hours
C-2(C)	Seminar / Scholarly Presentation 1 Credit 10 Marks • Research-oriented seminar based on the scholar's proposed area or a closely related Public Administration theme. • Suggested areas: administrative theory; governance; public policy; development administration; Indian administrative thought; historical and comparative administration; Indian Knowledge Systems and administrative ideas; digital governance; AI and administration; local governance; social policy; NGOs and civil society; food and nutritional security; environmental and climate governance; administrative ethics; social justice; accountability; public service delivery; evidence-based policymaking; and emerging research methods. • Presentation should demonstrate use of scholarly literature and appropriate evidence. • The seminar should include critical discussion, questions and responses. • Where appropriate, the scholar should demonstrate a research instrument, dataset, documentary source, conceptual framework or preliminary findings.	15

Suggested Assessment Pattern C-2(C)

Evaluation Criterion	Marks
Content and scholarly relevance	4
Research approach and use of sources	2
Presentation and academic communication	2
Discussion / response to questions	2
TOTAL	10

COURSE C-3: ADVANCED PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, GOVERNANCE AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Credits: 3 | Marks: 50 | Hours: 45

The advanced subject-specific course retains the core Public Administration syllabus and enriches it with historical, comparative, source-critical, Indian Knowledge Systems and emerging research perspectives. Department/RAC may relate readings and assignments to the scholar's proposed Ph.D. research area.

Course Objectives

- Develop an advanced understanding of contemporary theories and approaches in Public Administration.
- Examine emerging administrative areas and the changing relationship between state, society, markets, technology and citizens.
- Analyse governance, development and public policy through Indian and comparative perspectives.
- Introduce historical-institutional and Indian intellectual resources for understanding administrative ideas and practices.
- Critically examine ethics, social justice, transparency, accountability and administrative capacity.
- Enable scholars to connect contemporary administrative problems with evidence, institutions, policy processes and researchable questions.

Learning Outcomes

- Critically explain major paradigms and contemporary approaches in Public Administration.
- Analyse governance and development using institutional, network, participatory, collaborative and multi-level perspectives.
- Apply historical, comparative and interdisciplinary approaches to administrative questions where relevant.
- Examine ethical, constitutional, social justice and accountability dimensions of public administration.
- Assess emerging areas such as digital governance, AI, data governance, blockchain, climate governance and resilient administration.
- Identify researchable administrative problems and connect theoretical perspectives with empirical evidence.

Module No.	Module Content	Hours
UNIT I	Advanced Public Administration Theories and Approaches • Evolution of Public Administration: Classical, Scientific Management, Bureaucratic, Human Relations, Behavioral, Ecological and Post-Behavioral	15

	approaches and Adaptive Governance, Institutional and Comparative Approaches • New Public Administration (NPA), New Public Management(NPM), Post-NPM, NPS and Contemporary Paradigms. • Governance Approaches: Network Governance, Participatory Governance, Multi-Level Governance and Polycentric Governance. • Public Policy Approach and Evidence-Based Policymaking • Contemporary and Technology-Driven Approaches: Digital Governance, Data-Driven Administration, Artificial Intelligence, Algorithmic Governance. • Indian administration and Interdisciplinary Perspectives	
UNIT II	Governance & Development • Administrative Structures in India: Constitutional framework; Union, State and Local administration; Parliamentary and Executive institutions; Secretariat, Departments, District Administration and field-level administration. • Administrative Functions and Processes: Policy formulation, planning, coordination, implementation, regulation, monitoring, evaluation and administrative decision-making. • Centre–State–Local Relations: Federalism, Union–State relations, State–Local relations, decentralisation and the institutional framework of the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments. • Local Governance and Decentralisation: Panchayati Raj Institutions, Urban Local Bodies, Gram Sabha, participatory planning, local development and citizen participation. • Governance and Development: Good Governance, development administration, state capacity, institutional development, inclusive growth, human development, capability approach and SDGs. • Collaborative and Participatory Governance: State–civil society relations, NGOs, community-based organisations, public-private partnerships, co-production, citizen participation and multi-level governance. • Administrative Reforms in India: Evolution of administrative reforms; institutional restructuring; civil-service reforms. • Second Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC-II): Major recommendations relating to Right to Information, Ethics in Governance, Local Governance, Capacity Building, Public Order, Crisis Management, promoting e-Governance, Strengthening Financial Management, State and District Administration, Personnel Administration and Citizen-Centric Governance. • Emerging Governance Reforms: Digital transformation, data-driven governance, administrative innovation, artificial intelligence, environmental governance, climate resilience, disaster management and institutional adaptation.	15
UNIT III	Contemporary Issues in Public Administration • Administrative Ethics and Public Values: Ethics, morality, constitutional morality, public-service values, integrity, probity, impartiality, objectivity and fairness. • Ethical Governance and Leadership: codes of ethics and conduct, conflict of interest, administrative discretion, whistle-blower protection, corruption and anti-corruption mechanisms.	15

	• Social Justice and Constitutional Governance: Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles of State Policy, equality, equity, affirmative action, social inclusion and administrative justice, Governance of marginalized and vulnerable communities; gender, disability, children, elderly persons, minorities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. • Administrative Accountability: Political, administrative, legislative, judicial, legal, professional, social, democratic, financial and performance accountability. • Institutions and Instruments of Accountability: Parliament and Parliamentary Committees, CAG, RTI, Information Commissions, Lokpal, Lokayukta, CVC, Ombudsman, Social Audit, Citizen Charter and grievance redressal.	
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C-3 Assessment

Component	Marks
End-semester / written examination	40
Internal: presentation / assignment / case or research exercise	10
TOTAL	50

COURSE C-4: RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION ETHICS

Credits: 2 | Marks: 20 | Hours: 30

Introduce responsible research conduct, academic integrity and ethical publication practices in Public Administration and policy research.

Course Objectives

- Familiarise scholars with ethical principles governing research and scholarly publication.
- Promote responsible conduct of research and academic integrity.
- Develop awareness regarding research misconduct and unethical publication practices.
- Familiarise scholars with ethical standards of authorship, peer review, citation, data use and publication.

Learning Outcomes

- Explain the principles of research and publication ethics.
- Apply ethical standards in research design, data collection, analysis and reporting.
- Identify and avoid plagiarism, fabrication, falsification, duplicate publication and other misconduct.
- Follow accepted standards of authorship, peer review, citation and scholarly communication.
- Use digital and AI-assisted tools responsibly and transparently.

Module No.	Module Content	Hours
UNIT I	Foundations Of Research Ethics and Academic Integrity • Meaning, nature, scope and importance of research ethics. • Ethics in Social Science and Public Administration research. • Principles of research integrity, objectivity, transparency and accountability. • Responsible conduct of research and scholarly practice. • Ethical issues in research design and methodology. • Ethical data collection, analysis and reporting. • Informed consent and protection of research participants. • Confidentiality, anonymity and privacy. • Ethical considerations relating to vulnerable groups. • Ethical use and protection of digital data.	15

UNIT II	Publication Ethics and Research Misconduct • Meaning and forms of academic misconduct. • Plagiarism and self-plagiarism. • Fabrication, falsification and manipulation of research findings. • Duplicate publication and inappropriate fragmentation of research. • Authorship, contributorship and acknowledgement. • Conflict of interest and researcher responsibility. • Peer review and editorial responsibilities. • Journal selection, predatory publishing and deceptive journals. • Citation, referencing, copyright, intellectual property and open access. • Corrections, retractions, research transparency and responsible use of AI-assisted and generative-AI tools.	15
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C-4 Assessment

Component	Marks
Written examination	15
Assignment / case study	5
TOTAL	20

SUGGESTED READING AND REFERENCE SOURCES

Research Methodology

- Booth, W. C., Colomb, G. G., Williams, J. M., Bizup, J., & FitzGerald, W. T. (2016). The craft of research (4th ed.). University of Chicago Press.
- Bryman, A. (2016). Social research methods (5th ed.). Oxford University Press.
- Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches (5th ed.). SAGE Publications.
- Creswell, J. W., & Poth, C. N. (2018). Qualitative inquiry and research design: Choosing among five approaches (4th ed.). SAGE Publications.
- Field, A. (2018). Discovering statistics using IBM SPSS statistics (5th ed.). SAGE Publications.
- Kothari, C. R., & Garg, G. (2019). Research methodology: Methods and techniques (4th ed.). New Age International Publishers.
- Kumar, R. (2019). Research methodology: A step-by-step guide for beginners (5th ed.). SAGE Publications.
- University Grants Commission, & INFLIBNET Centre. (n.d.). Approved academic resources on doctoral research methodology.

Research Methodology in Public Administration

- Bryman, A. (2016). Social research methods (5th ed.). Oxford University Press.
- Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches (5th ed.). SAGE Publications.
- Creswell, J. W., & Poth, C. N. (2018). Qualitative inquiry and research design: Choosing among five approaches (4th ed.). SAGE Publications.
- Field, A. (2018). Discovering statistics using IBM SPSS statistics (5th ed.). SAGE Publications.
- Kothari, C. R., & Garg, G. (2019). Research methodology: Methods and techniques (4th ed.). New Age International Publishers.
- Kumar, R. (2019). Research methodology: A step-by-step guide for beginners (5th ed.). SAGE Publications.
- Booth, W. C., Colomb, G. G., Williams, J. M., Bizup, J., & FitzGerald, W. T. (2016). The craft of research (4th ed.). University of Chicago Press.

- Bryman, A. (2016). Social research methods (5th ed.). Oxford University Press.

Advanced Public Administration, Governance and Contemporary Issues

- Basu, R. (2012). Public administration: Concepts and theories. Sterling Publishers.
- Bhattacharya, M. (2013). New horizons of public administration (7th rev. ed.). Jawahar Publishers & Distributors.
- Henry, N. (2018). Public administration and public affairs (13th ed.). Routledge.
- Hughes, O. E. (2018). Public management and administration: An introduction (5th ed.). Palgrave.
- Maheshwari, S. R. (2001). Indian administration. Orient BlackSwan.
- Maheshwari, S. R. (1998). Administrative thinkers. Macmillan India.
- Prasad, D. R., Prasad, V. S., Satyanarayana, P., & Pardhasaradhi, Y. (2017). Administrative thinkers (3rd rev. ed.). Sterling Publishers.
- Kautilya. (1992). The Arthashastra (L. N. Rangarajan, Trans.). Penguin Books India. (Original work published ca. 3rd century BCE).
- Second Administrative Reforms Commission. (2006). Crisis management: From despair to hope (3rd Report). Government of India.
- Second Administrative Reforms Commission. (2007). Ethics in governance (4th Report). Government of India.
- Second Administrative Reforms Commission. (2007). Local governance: An inspiring journey into the future (6th Report). Government of India.
- Second Administrative Reforms Commission. (2008). Refurbishing of personnel administration: Scaling new heights (10th Report). Government of India.
- Second Administrative Reforms Commission. (2008). Promoting e-governance: The SMART way forward (11th Report). Government of India.
- Second Administrative Reforms Commission. (2009). Citizen-centric administration: The heart of governance (12th Report). Government of India.
- Second Administrative Reforms Commission. (2009). Strengthening financial management systems (14th Report). Government of India.

COURSE-WISE CREDIT AND MARKS SUMMARY

Course No.	Course	Credits	Marks	Nature
C-1	Research Methodology in Public Administration	4	100	Compulsory core course
C-2(A)	Research Proposal for Financial Assistance	1	10	Research activity
C-2(B)	Review Research Article	1	10	Research activity
C-2(C)	Seminar / Scholarly Presentation	1	10	Research activity
C-3	Advanced Public Administration, Governance and Contemporary Issues Contemporary Issues in Public Administration	3	50	Subject-specific course
C-4	Research and Publication Ethics	2	20	Compulsory core course
	TOTAL	12	200	—