

**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/ 22]-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.

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University



Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar –431 004, Maharashtra, India

Pre Ph.D. Course Work Subject Wise Curriculum List of Under the Faculty Of Interdisciplinary Studies

Sr. No.	Name of the subjects
1.	Performing Arts
2.	Social Work
3.	Education
4.	Physical Education
5.	Fine Art
6.	Library and Information Science
7.	Home Science
8.	Liberal Arts
9.	Music



NAAC Re- Accredited A+ Grade

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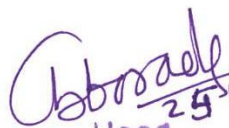
Department of History and Ancient Indian Culture

PRE- Ph.D. COURSEWORK
SYLLABUS
LIBERAL ARTS
(Interdisciplinary Studies)

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Course Structure: Credits & Marks Distribution

Course No.	Course Name	Credits	Marks
Course 1 (C-1)	Research Methodology for Liberal Arts <i>Foundations of research; qualitative, quantitative and mixed-method design; identification and formulation of the research problem; hypothesis and thesis-statement construction; literature survey using traditional and digital archives; Digital Humanities and Artificial-Intelligence-assisted research methods; data collection and analysis; computer applications for research; academic writing and reporting.</i>	4 credits	100
Course 2 (C-2)	Writing of research proposal for obtaining financial assistance from national / international funding agencies (e.g., ICSSR, UGC, national research foundations, comparable overseas funding bodies)	1 credit	10
	Writing of a review research article for submission to a peer-reviewed journal	1 credit	10
	Seminar presentations on the proposed area of doctoral research	1 credit	10
Course 3 (C-3)	Subject-Specific Advanced Level Courses <i>Three one-credit advanced strands: (a) Advanced Critical & Cultural Theory; (b) Digital Humanities and Artificial Intelligence in the Humanities & Social Sciences; (c) Interdisciplinary and Comparative Liberal Arts Studies. Exact content finalized by the Board of Studies / Department Committee.</i>	3 credits	50
Course 4 (C-4)	Research and Publication Ethics <i>Philosophy and ethics of research; research integrity and misconduct; plagiarism and its detection; publication ethics, authorship and predatory publishing; intellectual property rights and open access; ethics of using Artificial Intelligence / large language models in research and academic writing.</i>	2 credits	20
	Total	12 Credits	200


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Course 1 (C-1): Research Methodology for Liberal Arts

Credits: 4 | Marks: 100

Unit I — Foundations of Research in the Liberal Arts

- Nature, objectives and characteristics of research in the humanities and social sciences; the distinctiveness of interpretive, interpretive-critical and empirical inquiry.
- Interdisciplinarity as a defining feature of Liberal Arts research; drawing on literature, history, philosophy, sociology, psychology, political theory and economics.
- Identification and defining of the research problem; selection criteria for a doctoral research problem.
- Concept, formulation and testing of hypotheses / research questions; importance of the hypothesis or thesis statement in scholarly argumentation and decision-making.

Unit II — Research Design and Methods

- Qualitative approaches: ethnography, case study, oral history, discourse and narrative analysis, hermeneutic and critical-interpretive methods.
- Quantitative and mixed-methods approaches: survey design, basic statistical reasoning for social-science-oriented Liberal Arts research, triangulation.
- Comparative, historical and archival methods; textual and visual-culture analysis.
- Literature survey: systematic review technique, use of print and digital archives, academic databases and citation indices.

Unit III — Digital Humanities and Artificial Intelligence in Research

- Introduction to Digital Humanities: text encoding (e.g., TEI), corpus linguistics, computational text analysis, network analysis of texts and social relations.
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and spatial-humanities methods; data visualization for humanities and social-science arguments.
- Artificial Intelligence and Large Language Models (LLMs) as research aids: AI-assisted literature review, summarization, translation, and qualitative-coding support.
- Digital archiving, metadata standards and open digital repositories; building and curating a digital corpus for a doctoral project.
- Responsible and transparent use of AI tools in scholarship; recognizing limitations, bias and hallucination in AI-generated content; disclosure norms.

Unit IV — Data Collection, Analysis and Computer Applications

- Interviews, questionnaires, participant observation and fieldwork techniques appropriate to Liberal Arts disciplines.
- Content and discourse analysis; qualitative data analysis software (e.g., NVivo, ATLAS.ti); introductory quantitative/statistical software (e.g., SPSS, R).
- Reference-management tools, plagiarism-detection software, and research-workflow applications.

Unit V — Academic Writing, Reporting and Dissemination

- Structuring a doctoral thesis / dissertation prospectus; developing a coherent scholarly argument.
- Citation conventions (MLA, Chicago, APA); avoiding inadvertent plagiarism while using digital and AI tools.
- Preparing research for peer-reviewed publication and conference presentation.


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Course 2 (C-2): Research Proposal, Review Article and Seminars

Credits: 3 (1+1+1) | Marks: 30 (10+10+10)

Component 1 — Writing of a Research Proposal (1 Credit, 10 Marks)

- Structure of a fundable research proposal: problem statement, objectives, review of literature, methodology, timeline and budget.
- Familiarity with major national and international funding schemes for Liberal Arts research (e.g., ICSSR, UGC, national research foundations, and comparable funding bodies abroad).
- Practicum: each scholar drafts and submits a proposal for evaluation by the Research Advisory Committee.

Component 2 — Writing of a Review Research Article (1 Credit, 10 Marks)

- Techniques of systematic and critical literature review; synthesizing scholarship across disciplines.
- Structuring a review article for submission to a peer-reviewed journal; adherence to journal-specific style and ethical norms.

Component 3 — Seminars (1 Credit, 10 Marks)

- Scholar-led seminar presentations on the proposed area of doctoral research, evaluated by the RAC/RRC and peers.
- Development of oral presentation, argumentation and academic-defence skills.


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Course 3 (C-3): Subject-Specific Advanced Level Courses

Credits: 3 (1+1+1) | Marks: 50

Exact content and weightage for each strand shall be finalized by the Board of Studies of the concerned subject / interdisciplinary Department Committee, within the framework below.

Strand A — Advanced Critical and Cultural Theory (1 Credit)

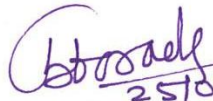
- Structuralism and post-structuralism; critical theory and the Frankfurt School.
- Postcolonial theory, feminist and gender theory, critical race theory.
- Theories of knowledge, power and discourse relevant to Liberal Arts research.

Strand B — Digital Humanities and Artificial Intelligence in the Humanities & Social Sciences (1 Credit)

- Computational approaches to text, culture and society; distant reading and stylometric analysis.
- Machine-learning applications in humanities and social-science research (classification, clustering, sentiment and topic modelling).
- Building and evaluating AI-assisted research pipelines; ethics of AI-generated scholarship and human-AI collaborative research.
- Data visualization, digital exhibitions, and public-facing digital humanities projects.

Strand C — Interdisciplinary and Comparative Liberal Arts Studies (1 Credit)

- Comparative literature and global/area studies; interdisciplinary methodology drawing on economics, psychology and political theory.
- Comparative historical and cultural analysis across regions and periods.
- Emerging interdisciplinary fields (e.g., cognitive humanities, environmental humanities, medical humanities) as illustrative electives.


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Course 4 (C-4): Research and Publication Ethics

Credits: 2 | Marks: 20

Unit I — Philosophy and Ethics of Research

- Introduction to philosophy of science and ethics; the scope of research ethics in the humanities and social sciences.
- Ethical principles guiding scholarly conduct: honesty, objectivity, integrity, respect for participants and sources.

Unit II — Research Integrity and Misconduct

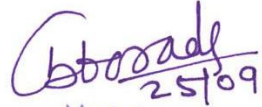
- Research misconduct: falsification, fabrication and plagiarism; types of plagiarism and their detection through software tools.
- Conflicts of interest; responsible conduct in collaborative and interdisciplinary research.

Unit III — Publication Ethics

- Authorship criteria, peer review, and the publication process; identifying and avoiding predatory journals and conferences.
- Intellectual property rights, copyright and open-access publishing.

Unit IV — Ethics of Artificial Intelligence in Research

- Responsible and transparent use of AI / large language models in research design, data analysis and academic writing.
- Disclosure norms for AI assistance; distinguishing legitimate AI-assisted work from AI-generated plagiarism.
- Data privacy, bias and accountability considerations when using AI tools in Liberal Arts research.


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3. Bryman, A. — Social Research Methods (5th ed.), Oxford University Press, 2016
4. Silverman, D. — Doing Qualitative Research (5th ed.), Sage, 2017
5. Yin, R. K. — Case Study Research and Applications: Design and Methods (6th ed.), Sage, 2018
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8. Repko, A. F. & Szostak, R. — Interdisciplinary Research: Process and Theory (4th ed.), Sage, 2020
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Digital Humanities & AI in Research (Course 1, Unit III; Course 3, Strand B)

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19. Barry, P. — Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory (4th ed.), Manchester University Press, 2017
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27. Israel, M. — Research Ethics and Integrity for Social Scientists (2nd ed.), Sage, 2015
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Academic Writing & Dissemination (Course 1, Unit V)

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