

Law

Syllabus for Ph.D. Entrance Test (PET)

Part – I: Research Methodology

1. Legal Research:

Scientific research and law as an academic discipline; meaning, objectives, nature, value and scope of legal research; pure and applied research, value of legal research; problems of objectivity in legal research; the research process.

2. Kinds of Legal Research:

Doctrinal, non-doctrinal, historical, Experimental, Descriptive, Historical, Qualitative and Quantitative methods, analytical, comparative, interdisciplinary approaches to legal research.

3. Identification of Research Problems:

Meaning, criteria, evaluation, Features and conditions conducive for formulation of significant research problems. Steps to Identify and formulate a Legal Research Problem and issues-Necessity & Pattern of Literature Review .Advantages of proper selection research problems, precautions to be taken in selection of research problems, components in the progressive formulation of a problem.

4. Major Steps Involved in doing Legal Research:

Formulation of research problem and hypothesis, use of library resources, analyzes of concepts, research design, collection of data, data analyzes, testing of hypothesis, conclusion and generalization, reporting.

5. Hypothesis:

Nature and role; Meaning, importance, features, types, sources and problems in formulating hypothesis, Need for Hypothesis-Types of Hypothesis-Sources of Hypothesis-Functions of Hypothesis-Character of Good Hypothesis -Statistical Testing of Hypothesis

6. Research Design:

Meaning, need, features, important concepts relating to research design, types and significance.

7. Sampling Design:

Empirical research; Census and sampling methods, implications of sampling design, steps in sampling design, criteria of selecting a sampling procedure, characteristics of good sampling design, types of sampling design, merits and de-merits of sampling design.

8. Statistical Analysis:

Classification, analysis and tabulation of data; central tendencies, mean, median, mode, standard deviation, probability study; presentation of research reports, style of presentation.

9. Data Collection and Methods or Techniques of Legal Studies:

Doctrinal sources, legislation, statutory instruments, case books, writings, international documents, judgements – of international institutions and superior courts; Observation method, interview method, questionnaire method, survey method, case study method, project method, content analysis and use of scaling techniques.

10. Thesis and Article writing:

Format and styles of referencing. Writing-Research Reports-Steps on Writing Reports-Style Manuals-IPR and Plagiarism

11. Use of Computers in Legal Research:

Computers and their technology, types of computer, characteristics and applications of computer systems, use of internet for research, use of software for analysis and presentation of data.

Part – II: LAW

1. JURISPRUDENCE

1. Nature and sources of law
2. Schools of jurisprudence
3. Law and morality
4. Concept of rights and duties
5. Legal personality
6. Concepts of property, ownership and possession
7. Concept of liability
8. Law, poverty and development
9. Global justice
10. Modernism and post-modernism

2. CONSTITUTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

1. Preamble, fundamental rights and duties, directive principles of state policy.
2. Union and State executive and their interrelationship
3. Union and State legislature and distribution of legislative powers
4. Judiciary
5. Emergency provisions
6. Amendment provisions
7. Citizenship
8. Temporary, transitional and special provisions in respect of certain states
9. Election Commission of India
10. Nature, scope and importance of administrative law
11. Principle of natural justice
12. Judicial review of administrative actions – Grounds.

3.PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW AND IHL

1. International law – Definition, nature and basis
2. Sources of International law
3. Recognition of states and governments
4. Nationality, immigrants, refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs)
5. Extradition and asylum
6. United Nations and its organs
7. Settlement of international disputes
8. World Trade Organization (WTO)
9. International humanitarian law (IHL) - Conventions and protocols
10. Implementation of IHL – Challenges

4. LAW OF CRIMES

1. General principles of criminal liability – Actusreus and mensrea, individual and group liability and constructive liability
2. Stages of crime and inchoate crimes - Abetment, criminal conspiracy and attempt
3. General exceptions
4. Offences against human body
5. Offences against state and terrorism
6. Offences against property
7. Offences against women and children
8. Drug trafficking and counterfeiting
9. Offences against public tranquility
10. Theories and kinds of punishments, compensation to the victims of crime

5. LAW OF TORTS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

1. Nature and definition of tort
2. General principles of tortious liability
3. General defenses
4. Specific torts – Negligence, nuisance, trespass and defamation
5. Remoteness of damages
6. Strict and absolute liability
7. Tortious liability of the State
8. The Consumer Protection Act 1986 - Definitions, consumer rights and redressal mechanism
9. The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 - No fault liability, third party insurance and claims tribunal
10. The Competition Act, 2002 - Prohibition of certain agreements, abuse of dominant position and regulation of combinations

6. COMMERCIAL LAW

1. Essential elements of contract and e-contract
2. Breach of contract, frustration of contract, void and voidable agreements
3. Standard form of contract and quasi-contract
4. Specific contracts - Bailment, pledge, indemnity, guarantee and agency
5. Sale of Goods Act, 1930
6. Partnership and limited liability partnership
7. Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881
8. Company law – Incorporation of a company, prospectus, shares and debentures
9. Company law – Directors and meetings
10. Corporate social responsibility

7. FAMILY LAW

1. Sources and schools
2. Marriage and dissolution of marriage
3. Matrimonial remedies - Divorce and theories of divorce
4. Changing dimensions of institution of marriage – Live-in relationship
5. Recognition of foreign decrees in India on marriage and divorce
6. Maintenance, dower and stridhan
7. Adoption, guardianship and acknowledgement
8. Succession and inheritance
9. Will, gift and wakf
10. Uniform Civil Code

8. ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

1. Meaning and concept of ‘environment’ and ‘environmental pollution’
2. International environmental law and UN Conferences
3. Constitutional and legal framework for protection of environment in India
4. Environmental Impact Assessment and control of hazardous waste in India
5. National Green Tribunal
6. Concept and development of human rights
7. Universalism and cultural relativism
8. International Bill of Rights
9. Group rights – Women, children, persons with disabilities, elderly persons, minorities and weaker sections
10. Protection and enforcement of human rights in India – National Human Rights Commission, National Commission for Minorities, National Commission for Women, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for Schedule Tribes and National Commission for Backward Classes

9. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LAW

1. Concept and meaning of intellectual property
2. Theories of intellectual property
3. International conventions pertaining to intellectual properties
4. Copyright and neighbouring rights – Subject matters, limitations and exceptions, infringement and remedies
5. Law of patent – Patentability, procedure for grant of patent, limitations and exceptions, infringement and remedies
6. Law of trademark – Registration of trademarks, kinds of trademarks, infringement and passing off, remedies
7. Protection of Geographical Indications
8. Bio-diversity and Traditional Knowledge
9. Information technology law- digital signature and electronic signature, electronic governance, electronic records and duties of subscribers
10. Cybercrimes, penalties and adjudication

10. COMPARATIVE PUBLIC LAW AND SYSTEMS OF GOVERNANCE

1. Comparative Law – Relevance, methodology, problems and concerns in Comparison
2. Forms of governments – Presidential and parliamentary, unitary and federal
3. Models of federalism – USA, Canada and India
4. Rule of Law – ‘Formal’ and ‘substantive’ versions
5. Separation of powers – India, UK, USA and France
6. Independence of judiciary, judicial activism and accountability – India, UK and USA
7. Systems of constitutional review – India, USA, Switzerland and France
8. Amendment of the Constitution – India, USA and South Africa
9. Ombudsman –Sweden, UK and India
10. Open Government and Right to Information - USA, UK and India