

2026

SOCIOLOGY

Course No. : SOC/C-05

(Methodology of Social Research)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 3 hours

The questions are of equal value

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

Answer any **five** questions

1. a) What is social research? Explain the research process and evaluate the significance of each stage in producing reliable knowledge. 4+8

Or

- b) Describe the major features of Interpretive research. How does Interpretivism understand social reality, meaning, and human action? 4+8

2. a) What is explanatory research design? Describe its characteristics, steps involved, and its application in social science research. 4+8

Or

- b) Explain sampling methods in social science research. Highlight the significance of probability sampling in conducting reliable social science research. 6+6

(Turn Over)



- 3 a) Explain the concept of Descriptive Analysis in research. Discuss its importance, characteristics, and limitations with suitable examples from social science research. 4+8

Or

- b) Calculate the mean, median and mode for the number of absent days of Sociology students in academic semester 2026. 12

Absent days	0-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25
No. of Students	8	7	8	13	15

Absent days	25-30	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50
No. of Students	12	6	10	18	2

4. a) Discuss the various methods of data collection in social science research. Highlight their merits and limitations with suitable examples. 12

Or

- b) Explain the concept of mixed-methods research. How can quantitative and qualitative data be integrated during different stages of research (design, data collection, development, expansion, analysis, and interpretation)? Discuss in detail. 4+8

5. a) What is Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)? Describe its key techniques and evaluate its role in empowering rural communities in social science research. 4+8

Or

- b) Discuss the role of data processing and data analysis in social science research. How do these steps contribute to accurate interpretation of results? 4+8

