SYLLABUS

PAPER 2(CEVPT2): EMPIRICAL RESEARCH TOOLS AND METHODS IN ELECTORAL STUDIES

Objectives:

The paper aims to develop students' understanding of empirical research methods and their application in electoral studies and voting behaviour analysis. It seeks to equip learners with skills in research design, sampling techniques, data collection, and the use of primary and secondary electoral data. The course introduces basic statistical tools and analytical techniques for interpreting electoral trends and political outcomes. It also emphasizes research ethics, fieldwork challenges, and effective report writing and presentation of research findings for academic and policy purposes.

Course Outcomes (COs):

On completion of this course, learners will be able to:

CO1: Understand the fundamentals of empirical research and its relevance in electoral studies.

CO2: Explain various research methods, including surveys, interviews, and field studies used in analyzing voting behaviour.

CO3: Apply basic tools and techniques for data collection and analysis in electoral research.

CO4: Interpret electoral data, voting patterns, and public opinion using appropriate analytical methods.

CO5: Develop and present research-based reports on electoral trends and political behaviour.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PAPER SETTER/EXAMINER:

1. The syllabus prescribed should be strictly adhered to.
2. The question paper will consist of three sections: A, B, and C. Sections A and B will have four questions each from the respective sections of the syllabus and will carry 10 marks each. The candidates will attempt two questions from each section.
3. Section C will have fifteen short answer questions covering the entire syllabus. Each question will carry 3 marks. Candidates will attempt any 10 questions from this section.
4. The examiner shall give a clear instruction to the candidates to attempt questions only at one place and only once. Second or subsequent attempts, unless the earlier ones have been crossed out, shall not be evaluated.

5. The duration of each paper will be three hours.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CANDIDATES:

Candidates are required to attempt any two questions each from the sections A, and B of the question paper, and any ten short answer questions from Section C. They have to attempt questions only at one place and only once. Second or subsequent attempts, unless the earlier ones have been crossed out, shall not be evaluated.

CEVPT2	**Paper 2: Empirical Research Tools and Methods in Electoral Studies** **SECTION – A** 1. Empirical Research in Political Science: Meaning, scope, and relevance of empirical research in electoral and voting behaviour studies. 2. Research Design and Methods in Electoral Studies: Qualitative and quantitative research methods; selection of research problems and hypotheses. 3. Sampling Techniques and Data Sources: Types of sampling, primary and secondary data sources, electoral data, and survey data. 4. Tools of Data Collection: Questionnaires, interviews, observation, focus group discussions, and survey techniques. **SECTION – B** 5. Basic Statistical Tools for Electoral Analysis: Tabulation, percentage analysis, charts, and simple interpretation of electoral data. 6. Analysis of Voting Behaviour and Electoral Trends: Use of	M.M-100 Ext.- 70 Int. - 30 Pass-40%

	survey data and election results to study voter behaviour and political outcomes. 7. Research Ethics and Field Challenges: Ethical issues, reliability, validity, informed consent, and challenges in field-based research. 8. Report Writing and Research Presentation: Structure of research reports, referencing, data presentation, and policy-oriented conclusions.	

Suggested Readings

1. Almond, Gabriel A., and Sidney Verba. *The Civic Culture*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1963.
2. Butler, David, Ashok Lahiri, and Prannoy Roy. *India Decides: Elections*. New Delhi: Sage Publications, 1995.
3. Yadav, Yogendra. "Understanding the Second Democratic Upsurge." *Economic and Political Weekly*, 1996.
4. Kumar, Sanjay. *Changing Electoral Politics in India*. New Delhi: Sage Publications, 2014.
5. Kumar, Sanjay. *Post-Mandal Politics in India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2018.
6. CSDS–Lokniti. *National Election Studies (NES) Reports*. New Delhi: CSDS, various years.
7. Kothari, Rajni. *Politics in India*. New Delhi: Orient Blackswan, 2010.
8. Heywood, Andrew. *Politics*. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019.
9. Norris, Pippa. *Electoral Engineering*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004.
10. Election Commission of India. *Handbook for Returning Officers* and Election Reports, Government of India, various years.