MPhil (English) Entrance Test 2015

Test Schedule
Thursday, 09 July 2015
11.00 am to 2.00 pm

Venue: Gyanodaya Bhavan
Main Administrative Office Area, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar

A. Structure of the Test Paper
The Test Paper, carrying a weighting of 100 marks, will be divided into four sections as follows:

1. 10 objective-type, multiple choice questions aimed at testing the candidates’ general knowledge of the subject, i.e., English Language and Literature (10 marks)

2. 40 objective-type, multiple choice questions on the History of English Language and Literature (40 marks)

3. 05 short-answer questions out of eight to be answered in not more than 40 words each (25 marks)

4. 01 long-answer question out of four to be answered in not more than 300 words (25 marks)

B. Syllabus for the Entrance Test
The MPhil (English) Entrance Test will be based on the syllabus on core courses at the MA (CBCS) Semesters I, II, III and IV Examinations held in Oct/Nov 2013, April 2014, Oct/Nov 2014 and April 2015 respectively. There will be no questions set on any of the elective/self-study/soft skills courses.

History of English Literature (1500-1945)

Poetry
2. Lycidas by John Milton
Floating Post Office”, (viii) “The Correspondent”, (ix) “A Fate’s Brief Memoir”, and (x) “Ghazal”

4. The Rape of the Lock by Alexander Pope
6. Songs to Joannes (1917) by Mina Loy

Plays
1. As You Like It by William Shakespeare
2. She Stoops to Conquer by Oliver Goldsmith
3. Final Solutions by Mahesh Dattani
4. The Rover, or The Banished Cavaliers by Aphra Behn
5. Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw
6. Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead (1967) by Tom Stoppard

Novels/Fiction
1. The Inheritance of Loss by Kiran Desai
2. Our Mutual Friend by Charles Dickens
3. Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro
4. Ivo Andri: The Bridge on the Drina
5. Kurban Said: Ali and Nino
6. Assia Djebar, A Sister to Scheherazade
7. Fyodor Dostoevsky: The Idiot
8. Hermann Hesse: Magister Ludi: The Glass Bead Game
9. Joseph Roth: The Radetzky March

Literary Theory and Literary Criticism
1. “Of Tragedy” from Poetics by Aristotle
2. An Essay of Dramatic Poesy by John Dryden
3. (i) “The Function of Criticism at Present Time” by Matthew Arnold; (ii) “Tradition and the Individual Talent” by T. S. Eliot; (iii) Essays on the “Concept of Sahrdaya in Indian Poetics” and “The Secret of Rasanubhuti or Art Experience”
Cultural Studies and Theoretical Essays


Note: Examinees will be required to write the answers in the test paper itself. No separate answersheet will be issued to them.
C. Sample Questions

Section-1: This section with ten mandatory objective-type, multiple choice questions will be aimed at testing the candidates’ general knowledge of English Language and Literature. (10 marks)

1. Elia was the pen name of
   [C] Charles Dickens  [D] Charles Norton

2. The line ‘My love is like a red, red rose’ is
   [A] a simile  [B] a metaphor
   [C] a symbol  [D] a metonymy

Section-2: There will be forty mandatory, objective-type, multiple choice questions based on the History of English Language and Literature on this section. (40 marks)

1. Queen Victoria ascended the throne in
   [A] 1847  [B] 1851
   [C] 1832  [D] 1837

2. Identify the poem which is an elegy on the death of Keats
   [C] In Memorium  [D] Prometheus

Section-3: This section will have eight short-answer questions, and a candidate will be required to answer five of these in not more than 40 words each. (20 marks)

1. How does Eliot relate ‘tradition’ and ‘individual talent’ in his essay “Tradition and the Individual Talent”?

2. Discuss the significance of the title of the Pinter’s play The Caretaker.

Section-4: The final section will carry four long-answer questions, and a candidate would be required to answer any one of these in not more than 300 words. (15 marks)


2. Explore the characteristics of the poetry of Robert Browning with reference to some of his poems.

Note: The Test Paper will have no questions set on the syllabi prescribed on the Electives.

D. Requirements for Eligibility

1. Applicants should have secured at least 50% marks at the MA Examination in English as a specialization to be eligible to take the MPhil (English) Entrance Test.

2. They also need to secure at least 50% marks at the MPhil (English) Entrance Test to be eligible for admission to the MPhil (English) Programme.

3. However, mere fulfilment of the minimum eligibility provisions does not automatically ensure a secure admission for any applicant because the admission process actually begins from here.
E. Stages in the Admission Process

1. **Stage-1**: The University will issue an advertisement calling for applications for admission to our MPhil (English) programme from interested candidates who have secured a minimum of 50% marks on an average in the External Examination at MA in English.

2. **Stage-2**: The Department of English will conduct the MPhil (English) Entrance Test on behalf of the University between 11.00 am and 2.00 pm on Thursday, 09 July 2015 in the Gynodaya Building, Main University Office, Sardar Patel University.

3. **Stage-3**: The qualifier list for admission to the MPhil (English) programme will be declared on the University Website <www.spuvn.edu> at 5.00 pm on Friday, 17 July 2015.

4. **Stage-4**: Please remain present at 10.00 am on Tuesday, 21 July 2015 for Interview-cum-Counselling session will be held between 10.30 am onward in the Computer Laboratory of the Department in the Humanities and Social Sciences Building (as per the University Circular announcing MPhil Entrance Test) for all the qualifying applicants, wherein each of the qualifying applicants shall:

   (a) appear, bringing with him/her four copies of the presentation (one each for the members of the MPhil RDC, and one for the records) on a topic of his/her area of interest for research.

   (b) make an oral/PowerPoint presentation lasting not more than five minutes on the topic of his/her area of interest for research, focussing on why and how he/she thinks the research area chosen is important and how much of work he/she has already put into it thus far.

   (c) answer questions based on the short oral/PowerPoint presentation asked by any of the members of the MPhil RDC who might wish to do so.

   **Note**: The applicants are instructed in advance to take this very seriously as the MPhil RDC will make an assessment of their research potential on the basis of their presentations and their response to questions put on it before taking a final decision on admission. An applicant’s failure to make a presentation will be taken as constituting a breach of the requirements on his/her part, thus leading to his/her automatic disqualification.

5. The Department has a total of 6 State-aided Seats and 9 Self-financed Seats on its MPhil (English) (Full-time) Programme for the year 2011-12.

6. The ongoing SAP-DRS Programme (Phase-II) of the UGC makes it necessary for us to adhere to the following division of seats on merit basis as per the university rules: (A) 70% for SPU; 10% for OUG; and 20% for OTG on both State-aided and Self-financed Programmes. Of the 70% seats for SPU, 48% are for Open; 07% for SC; 15% for ST; 27% for SEBC; and 03% for PH. The same set of criteria applies to the 10% OUG and 20% OTG seats.

7. The Break-up for 6 State-aided and 9 Self-financed Seats is as follows as per existing rules:

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F. The Core Committee for Admission

The entire admission process will be managed by a Core Committee set up by the University to conduct the MPhil (English) Entrance Test and finalise admissions.

The Core Committee for the MPhil (English) Entrance Test will consist of the Head of the Department of English as the Convenor and include all the members of the MPhil Research Committee in the Department as members. It will perform the following functions as per the directives from the University:

1. It will scrutinize all the applications received from the University Office and sort these out on the basis of the Open, SC, ST, SEBC, PH, OUG, and OTG categories relying on the supporting documents.

2. It will despatch by post/courier admit card to the permanent postal address supplied by an applicant in his/her application. However, the committee shall not be held responsible for not supplying this in person, and if it refuses entry to any candidate who fails to produce the admit card when he/she comes to take the Entrance Test.

3. It will set/get the Entrance Test set for the MPhil (English) Entrance Test.

4. It will conduct the MPhil (English) Entrance Test between 11.00 am and 1.00 pm on Wednesday, 11 July 2012.

5. It will evaluate/get the answerscripts of the MPhil (English) Entrance Test evaluated and prepare the final merit list taking into account 40% marks of the total marks obtained in the External Examination only (70 x 8 = 560) in eight papers at MA (English), plus the actual marks secured by each of the examinees out of 60 in the MPhil Entrance Test, thus accounting for the final scores out of 100.

6. It will thus compile the qualifier list and display it on the university website <www.spuvvn.edu>.

7. It will hold a personal interview-cum-counselling session for all of the qualifying candidates.

8. It will grant admissions for a total of 15 seats (6 SA plus 9 SF) purely on the basis of merit as per the university, Government of Gujarat, and UGC rules, and notify these to the University. Only three teachers in the Department are recognised to guide MPhil students, and each of them can take only 5 students as per the UGC mandate published in the Gazette of India on 11 July 2009.

G. Important Note

The decision of the MPhil Research Committee on admissions to the MPhil programme shall ordinarily be final. However, in case of any dispute thereafter, the decision of the Honourable Vice Chancellor, Sardar Patel University shall be final and binding for all concerned.
For Applicants who are Admitted

Classes for the MPhil (English) Programme will commence 2.30 pm onward on Monday, 27 July 2015.

Provisions in R.PG.MPhil.Arts.31 mandate that “An MPhil student shall put in 75% of attendance at all lectures, seminars tutorials… during a year, failing which his/her terms shall not be granted and he/she shall not be permitted to appear in the examination,” for MPhil (English) is a full-time Programme. Deficiency of attendance constitutes a breach of agreement, and would lead us to take the unpleasant action of restraining truant scholars from taking the University Examination.

Those who may be in employment in colleges/institutions are advised to seek the necessary NOC and permission from their employees and submit these to the Department. They must make necessary arrangements in order to be able to attend classes regularly.

We shall not be able to entertain any plea thereafter.