

Krea University Psychology PhD Entrance Exam and Interview Syllabus

Part A: Research Methodology: Statistics, Logical Reasoning, and Qualitative Methods (50%)

- Core Methodology: Experimental, quasi-experimental, and non-experimental designs; qualitative and mixed-method approaches; sampling techniques; hypothesis formulation, variables and controls, and general principles of scientific inquiry.
- Statistics: Parametric and non-parametric tests, correlational analysis, ANOVA, regression, factor analysis, and structural equation modeling.
- Logical and Verbal Reasoning: Analytical reasoning, critical reading and comprehension, data interpretation, logical deductions, evaluating arguments, and verbal analogies to assess interdisciplinary academic aptitude.
- Qualitative Methods: philosophical assumptions and foundations of the 5 major approaches of qualitative enquiry (thick descriptions and ethnography, phenomenological, constructive, narrative, discursive); conceptual understanding of positionality, reflexivity, research ethics.

Part B: Subject-Specific and Interdisciplinary Domains (50%)

- Biological and Evolutionary Basis of Behaviour: Nervous system structures and functions, synaptic transmission, neuroplasticity, endocrine system, and genetic/evolutionary foundations of behavior. Interdisciplinary extension: Basic familiarity with cognitive neuroscience methodologies (e.g., EEG, fMRI).
- Cognitive Psychology and Cognitive Science: Attention, perception, learning, memory, forgetting, thinking, intelligence, and creativity. Interdisciplinary extension: Information processing architectures, human-computer interaction concepts, and embodied cognition.
- Social Psychology: (UGC NET Unit 7): Social psychological theories, intergroup relations, prejudice and discrimination, social perception, social influence, attitudes, interpersonal attraction, helping behaviour and altruism. Behavioural Economics extension: Heuristics and biases, prospect theory, decision-making under uncertainty, and nudging.
- Developmental, Clinical, and Applied Psychology: Lifespan development, theories of personality, motivation, emotion, stress and coping mechanisms. Psychopathology, therapeutic interventions, and emerging areas (e.g., well-being, organizational behavior).