

Sample Question Paper II

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Ph.D. Entrance Examination

Time: One Hour

Full Marks: 20

All applicants must answer BOTH questions. Each question carries equal marks.

For Applicants in Economics:

1. Research Methodology: (10 marks)

Define and derive the condition for Corner Solution in a two-good model.

2. Discipline Specific: (10 marks)

Suppose a consumer initially has monetary wealth W . There is some probability p that he will lose an amount L in case his house burns down. He can buy an insurance that will pay him q in the event that he incurs the loss. The premium for q amount of coverage is πq . The consumer is strictly risk-averse. How much coverage will the consumer purchase?

For Applicants in Disciplines other than Economics:

3. Research Methodology: (10 marks)

“Interdisciplinarity is no longer a question of experimentation, but a necessary part of research methods in all disciplines.” Do you agree with this statement in the context of your own proposed research project? Give reasons for your answer.

4. Discipline Specific: (10 marks)

“Methodological nationalism makes the nation-state appear normal, given, and indispensable in all academic disciplines. How have debates in your disciplines critiqued this naturalization of the nation-state in academic frameworks?”