



Tribhuvan University
Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

2026

MPhil-PhD in Rural Development

Course Title: Measurement of Human and Sustainable Development

Code No: RDS 711

Semester: II

Full Marks: 60

Pass Marks: 30

Time: 3 hours

Batch: 2024

Candidates are required to answer the questions in their own words as far as possible.

Group A

Attempt any TWO Questions:

[2x15=30]

1. How much Theory of Growth Limits is relevant today? What are its principles and philosophical thought? Illustrates it with dimensions, lessons and applications with examples? What is its implication on sustainable development in developing economies?
2. Construct a pie chart of sustainable development approach with the description of three-dimensional bilateral relationships. What is lesson learning from these relationships and which portion of a pie chart will be a sustainable development? Can you explore such theoretical stand in Bhutan's Development and implications, explain? If not, what will be your suggestions
3. Do you know about Environmental Performance Index? If yes, what is its school of thought and philosophy? How many indicators and issues are covered to measure Environmental Performance of the World by the country? Explain which three countries top and worst performers in Index? Can you explain its implication in sustainable development?

Group B

Attempt any THREE Questions:

[3x10=30]

4. Nepal stands in the rank of 109 with 34 scores In the Corruption Perception Index in 2025, Elaborate how many indicators of six indicators performs, what? What are issues complicating to reduce corruption? What are major implications on the policy-delivery-achievement of development in Nepal?
5. Distinct poverty and hunger with examples. Can you analyze why SDG 1: No Poverty and SDG2: No Hunger are made in the 17 SDGs? What are your insights their measurements to measure Quality of Life and Living Standard in the World? What are indicators, issues and implications in developing countries?
6. Demonstrate a purpose of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) with its dimensions and indicators with themes and indicators with examples. How the government of Nepal has localized the SDG with dimensions, indicators and agencies? Critical appraisal it particularly in three tiers of the government with the performance of indicators.
7. What is your insight on "*the urgency of development*" in Nepal after adopting the federal regime? If yes, what is your philosophical and development observation whether the development is rapid in *Growth Model* or *Happiness Index*, why? In 21st century, which development model is applied in the rest of world and in Bhutan? Which is best one in the context of the discourse on the theory of growth limits and the beyond growth?



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2026

MPhil-PhD in Rural Development

Course Title: Research Philosophy and Methods in Rural Development

Code No: RDS 712

Semester: II

Full Marks: 60

Pass Marks: 30

Time: 3 hours

Batch: 2024

Candidates are required to answer the questions in their own words as far as possible.

Group A

Attempt any TWO Questions:

[2x15=30]

1. Critically examine the relationship between ontology, epistemology, axiology, and methodology in social science research. How do these philosophical dimensions shape research design in rural development studies? Illustrate with examples.
2. You are planning a PhD study on: "*Climate Change Impacts on Agriculture of Rural Nepal.*" Prepare a concise research design by selecting appropriate methodology, including: philosophical position, research design, sampling methods, data collection methods and ethical considerations.
3. Critically analyze the process of literature review, including research gap identification, and problematization.

Group B

Attempt any THREE Questions:

[3x10=30]

4. Distinguish between theoretical and conceptual frameworks in research. Discuss the challenges of integrating theoretical and conceptual frameworks in rural development research.
5. Discuss the role of triangulation in enhancing research rigor. Is triangulation always necessary, or can it sometimes create methodological confusion?
6. Critically assess the role of literature review in shaping research questions and theoretical positioning.
7. Write short notes:
 - a. Causal comparative research
 - b. Explanatory sequential research design



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MPhil-PhD in Rural Development
Course Title: Data Analysis with Computer Software
Code No: RDS 713
Semester: II

Full Marks: 60
Pass Marks: 30
Time: 3 hours
Batch: 2024

Candidates are required to answer the questions in their own words as far as possible.

Group A

Attempt any TWO Questions: **[2x15=30]**

1. Explain the significance of KoBoToolbox in online data collection for research. Then, demonstrate the step-by-step process of designing a form on the KoBoToolbox platform and collecting data using a smartphone.
2. Describe the structure of SPSS software and explain any three data transformation functions it performs in quantitative data analysis, illustrating your answer with appropriate examples.
3. Explain the step-by-step process of hypothesis testing in quantitative research with suitable examples.

Group B

Attempt any THREE Questions: **[3x10=30]**

4. Differentiate between Chi-square test and two-group mean tests (such as the independent samples t-test), highlighting their assumptions, types of variables and formula, with suitable examples.
5. Formulate a multivariate causal model with one dependent variable and two independent variables, and explain how you would apply the Ordinary Least Squares regression to test causal relationships among these variables.
6. Describe the process of managing and coding interview transcripts using MAXQDA and illustrate your answer with suitable examples.
7. Discuss the different types of outputs generated by MAXQDA and explain their uses in thesis writing, with relevant examples.



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MPhil-PhD in Rural Development
Course Title: Seminar on Rural Development
Code No: RDS 714
Semester: II

Full Marks: 30
Pass Marks: 15
Time: 1:30 hours
Batch: 2024

Candidates are required to answer the questions in their own words as far as possible.

Group A

Attempt any ONE question:

[1 x15= 15]

1. Critically analyze how the preparation of an annotated bibliography contributes to the conceptualization and enhancement of a thesis research problem. Clarify your answer with relevant examples.
2. How can a seminar paper be conceptualized within academic research, and what theoretical, empirical, and contextual considerations informed the selection of your topic in the field of contemporary rural development? Moreover, how does your study contribute to advancing existing scholarly discourse?

Group B

Attempt any TWO questions:

[2x 7.5= 15]

3. What criteria and tools do you utilize to locate pertinent academic sources, and how does the critical review of such literature shape the research agenda within your field?
4. Explain the major components of writing annotation in APA format.
5. Critically analyze a scholarly article you have studied in your 'Seminar on Rural Development' course. Evaluate its theoretical framework, methodology and contribution in the field.



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2026

MPhil-PhD in Rural Development
Course Title: Academic Writing
Code No: RDS 715
Semester: II

Full Marks: 30
Pass Marks: 15
Time: 1:30 hours
Batch: 2024

Candidates are required to answer the questions in their own words as far as possible.

Group A

Attempt any ONE question:

[1 x15= 15]

1. Define academic writing and its basic features with illustrations.
2. What are the components of concept paper? Prepare a concept paper based on your subject.

Group B

Attempt any TWO questions:

[2x 7.5= 15]

3. What is plagiarism? Why is this serious issue in academic writing?
4. Why do we need to learn academic vocabulary? Illustrate.
5. What is the difference between academic writing and creative writing? Explain it.