

**STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 86
(For Candidates admitted during the academic year 2011 – 2012)**

SUBJECT CODE: 11EC/PC/RM14

**M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION NOVEMBER 2011
BRANCH III – ECONOMICS
FIRST SEMESTER**

COURSE : CORE
**PAPER : RESEARCH METHODOLOGY, COMPUTER APPLICATIONS – I
(THEORY)**
TIME : 2 HOURS **MAX.MARKS : 60**

SECTION – A

**I. Answer any FOUR Questions. Each question should not exceed 300 words.
(4 X 15 = 60)**

1. Describe with example the different types of research that are commonly undertaken in Economics and other Social Sciences.
2. Discuss the basic principles of experimental design in research and also briefly describe some of the experimental designs.
3. (a) What do you mean by epistemology? How and why is epistemology important in research?
(b) Elaborate on deduction and induction logic in research
4. (a) Briefly explain the step by step procedure in carrying our research?
(b) What are the major problems encountered by the social sciences researchers in India?
5. What is the significance of report writing? Discuss the various steps involved in report writing.
6. (a) Elaborate on various methods of data collection and their drawbacks.
(b) What are the essential components that has to be taken into account while preparing a survey questionnaire.

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(PRACTICAL)
TIME : 1 HOUR **MAX.MARKS : 40**

SECTION – B

I. Solve Any 4 Problems **(4 X 10 = 40)**

1. (a) Find the elasticity of Expenditure on durable goods (Exp_Dg) with respect to Per capita consumption expenditure (PCE).
- (b) Find out the growth rate of expenditure on durable goods for the period 1989 to 2004.
- (c) What would be average expected expenditure on durable goods during the year 2005?

Year	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Exp_Dg	504.1	519.3	529.9	542.1	550.7	558.8	561.7	576.6
PCE	4286.8	4322.8	4366.6	4398	4439.4	4472.2	4498.2	4534.1
Year	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Exp_Dg	575.2	583.5	595.3	602.4	611	629.5	626.5	637.5
PCE	4555.3	4593.6	4623.4	4650	4692.1	4746.6	4768.3	4802.6

Exp_Dg Expenditure on durable goods

PCE Total personal consumption expenditure

2. A set of twelve students were tested through a practical examination for their computer application skills and their marks were recorded. Subsequently an intensive coaching on computer application was given to the set of 12 students for two weeks and at the end of two weeks another examination was conducted and the scores was recorded. The scores of examinations before and after the training are given in below. Use appropriate test to find out whether the coaching has got any statistically significant impact on the computer application skills of the students at 1%, 5% and 10% level of significance respectively.

Score / Student Id	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112
Before Coaching	50	42	51	26	35	42	60	41	70	55	62	38
After Coaching	62	40	61	35	30	52	68	51	84	63	72	50

3. Show with appropriate statistical tool if there is any significant difference between the marks of Students in 3 universities A, B and C at 1%, 5% and 10% level of significance.

University	Students				
	1	2	3	4	5
A	90	70	60	50	80
B	70	40	50	40	50
C	60	50	60	70	60

4. A super market that has a chain of stores is concerned about its service quality reputation perceived by its customers. The Table below shows the perceived service quality with regards to politeness of the staff. The number in each cell of the table is percentage of people who have said that the staff are polite. Use appropriate statistical test to find out whether the politeness of the staff significantly differ across stores and days.

Store	Day	X*	Store	Day	X*
A	Monday	79	C	Wednesday	84
A	Tuesday	78	C	Thursday	81
A	Wednesday	81	C	Friday	77
A	Thursday	80	D	Monday	77
A	Friday	70	D	Tuesday	97
B	Monday	81	D	Wednesday	94
B	Tuesday	86	D	Thursday	88
B	Wednesday	87	D	Friday	89
B	Thursday	83	E	Monday	66
B	Friday	74	E	Tuesday	86
C	Monday	74	E	Wednesday	82
C	Tuesday	89	E	Thursday	83
			E	Friday	68

X* = % of respondents who have said that the staff is polite

5. For the below given data which is a sample of 30 workers from various regions and gender, use Dummy variable regression model and estimate the differential effect of the region and gender on the mean salary. Also model the interaction effect to show the differential effect of being an Urban Male.

(note: Use Rural Female as reference category)

Obs. No.	Wages	Region*	Gender	Obs. No.	Wages	Gender	Region*
1	19583	SU	F	16	26610	F	SU
2	20263	SU	F	17	30678	F	SU
3	20325	SU	F	18	27170	M	SU
4	26800	SU	M	19	25853	M	SU
5	29470	SU	M	20	24500	M	SU
6	24624	R	F	21	22795	F	R
7	27186	R	F	22	21570	F	R
8	33990	R	M	23	22080	F	R
9	23382	R	M	24	22250	M	R
10	20627	R	M	25	20940	M	R
11	22482	U	F	26	24640	M	U
12	20969	U	F	27	22341	M	U
13	27224	U	F	28	25610	M	U
14	25892	U	M	29	26015	F	U
15	22644	U	M	30	25788	F	U

* U - Urban, SU - Sub-Urban, R - Rural
