

Indira Gandhi National Open University

School of Social Sciences

Course Code: SAMPLE-101

Course Title: Introduction to Sample Studies

BLOCK 1: FOUNDATIONS OF THE SUBJECT

UNIT 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE DISCIPLINE

Structure

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1.0 Objectives

After studying this unit, you should be able to:

- Understand the basic meaning of the discipline
- Explain its nature and scope
- Describe its importance in contemporary society

1.1 Introduction

This unit introduces the learner to the basic concepts of the discipline. It provides a conceptual foundation necessary for understanding advanced topics discussed in subsequent units.

1.2 Meaning of the Discipline

The discipline refers to a systematic body of knowledge developed through research and practice. It focuses on understanding patterns, structures, and processes related to its subject matter.

Check Your Progress – 1

1. Define the discipline in your own words.
2. Mention one key feature of the discipline.

1.3 Nature and Scope

The discipline is:

- Analytical in nature
- Interdisciplinary in approach
- Dynamic and evolving

Its scope includes theoretical study, practical application, and policy-oriented research.

1.4 Importance

The study of this discipline helps in:

- Developing critical thinking
- Understanding social and practical issues
- Enhancing professional competence

1.5 Let Us Sum Up

In this unit, we discussed the meaning, nature, scope, and importance of the discipline. These concepts form the base for further learning.

1.6 Key Words

- **Discipline:** A structured field of study
- **Scope:** Area covered by a subject
- **Nature:** Characteristics of a discipline

1.7 Answers to Check Your Progress

1. The discipline is a structured body of knowledge developed systematically.
2. One key feature is its analytical nature.

1.8 Suggested Readings

1. Author Name (Year). *Title of the Book*. Publisher.
2. IGNOU Study Material, SAMPLE-101.

How This Matches Real IGNOU SLMs

- ✓ Official IGNOU headings and numbering
- ✓ Objective-based learning format
- ✓ “Check Your Progress” self-assessment
- ✓ Neutral academic language
- ✓ Exam-oriented structure