Approved at the Department meeting
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QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATE EXAM PREPARATION IN PHILOSOPHY AND METHODOLOGY OF SCIENCE

1. **The interrelationship of philosophy, worldview, and culture.** The nature of philosophical problems and the question of philosophy's scientific status.
2. **Types of philosophical thinking in Eastern and Western traditions.** The role of philosophy in shaping national identity.
3. **The main strategies of postclassical and postmodern philosophy.** The evolution of paradigms of thinking and activity in the modern era.
4. **The sociocultural status and functions of philosophy in the modern world.** The role of philosophy in shaping individual value orientations and the principles of biospheric thinking.
5. **Philosophical and methodological analysis of nature.** Nature as a human habitat and the natural-geographical environment as a basic factor in social evolution.
6. **The concept of the biosphere and noogenesis.** The coevolution of man and nature as an environmental imperative and a core value of modern civilization.
7. **The systemic-evolutionary paradigm and global evolutionism.**

The self-organization of nature and its heuristic potential in developing the modern scientific picture of the world.

8. **Human as a subject of comprehensive analysis.** The main concepts of anthropogenesis, man as a biosocial being, and the problem of human corporeality and spirituality.
9. **The problem of human essence and existence.** The relationship between the concepts of "human", "individual", "individuality", and "personality". Personal choice, freedom, responsibility, and the meaning of life.
10. **The phenomenon of consciousness in philosophy and cognitive sciences.** The structure, multidimensionality, and polyfunctionality of consciousness. Consciousness, language, and communication.
11. **The problem of artificial intelligence (AI) and the prospects of humanity.** Philosophical aspects of AI and the concepts of a "posthuman" civilization.
12. **The individual in the system of modern communications.** Transformation of personality identity in the context of mass culture values and the anthropological crisis of technogenic civilization.
13. **Social reality and its structure.** Society as a developing system. Sources, driving forces, and patterns of social dynamics.
14. **Classical and modern strategies for studying society.** A comparative analysis of social concepts: Karl Marx, Max Weber, Talcott Parsons, and Jürgen Habermas.

15. **Formational and civilizational paradigms in the philosophy of history.** Linear and nonlinear interpretations of the historical process.

16. **The problem of social progress and modernization of society.** Criteria of progress, historical alternatives, and the humanistic dimension of social development.

17. **The concept of science and its genesis.** Science as an activity, a social institution, and a system of knowledge. Science and types of civilizational development.

18. **The evolution of the ideals of science.** Characteristics and distinctive features of ancient, medieval, early modern, and disciplinary-organized science.

19. **Historical stages in the development of scientific rationality.** Classical, non-classical, and post-non-classical stages in the development of science.

20. **Criteria of scientific nature and the demarcation of knowledge.** The specific nature of scientific knowledge. The phenomenon of parascience, deviant science, and esotericism.

21. **Forms of reflexive understanding of scientific knowledge.** The subject matter and tasks of epistemology, methodology, and the logic of science.

22. **The structure of scientific knowledge.** Empirical and theoretical levels of scientific knowledge, their unity, difference, and interaction.

23. **The empirical level of scientific research.** Structure, empirical basis of a scientific discipline, scientific fact, empirical generalizations, and patterns.

24. **The theoretical level of scientific research.** Problem, hypothesis, and scientific theory. Functions of a theory and types of abstract (ideal) objects.

25. **Metatheoretical foundations of science.** The scientific picture of the world, ideals, norms, and style of scientific thinking. Philosophical foundations of science.

26. **The dynamics of science and scientific revolutions.** Cumulative and anticumulative models of scientific progress. The nature and types of scientific revolutions.

27. **Methodological approaches in modern science.** Disciplinary, interdisciplinary, and transdisciplinary approaches. Criteria of interdisciplinarity.

28. **The concept of method and methodology.** Levels of methodology (philosophical, general scientific, and specific scientific). Methodology, techniques, and procedures of scientific research.

29. **The systems approach and nonlinear methodology of cognition.** The methodological potential of synergetics in modern scientific research.

30. **The conceptual and logical apparatus of science.** The language of science, object language, and metalanguage. The role of definitions in the formation of scientific terminology.

31. **The problem of truth in scientific cognition.** Criteria of reliability, verification, and falsification of knowledge. Forms of substantiating research results (proof, confirmation).

32. **Procedures for the systematization and explanation of knowledge.** Methods of classification, typology, interpretation, and explanation in scientific research.

33. **Information technology in modern scientific knowledge.** Epistemological problems of the computer representation of knowledge and modern methodological innovations.

34. **The laws and categories of dialectics in scientific cognition.** The methodological significance of dialectics and contradiction as the source of the development of scientific knowledge.

35. **The categorical apparatus of dialectics.** The methodological role of the categories of the general and particular, whole and part, essence and phenomenon, necessity and chance, historical and logical.

36. **Formal logic in the structure of scientific thinking.** Rules and laws of classical formal logic (identity, non-contradiction, excluded middle) and the principle of sufficient reason.

37. **Modern formal logic and programming.** Logical foundations of mathematical modeling, logical programming, and computer science.

38. **Dialectical logic as a methodology.** Principles of Marxist dialectical logic: objectivity of consideration, comprehensiveness of analysis, historicism, and the concreteness of truth.

39. **Categories of dialectical logic in science.** The use of specific concepts: content and form, cause and effect, structure, element, system, possibility, probability, and virtuality.

40. **Scientific discourse and argumentation.** Structure, types, and functions of argumentation. The rhetoric of science and features of scientific texts (dissertation, abstract, and dissertation summary).

41. **The evolution of organizational forms in science.** The integration, unity, and prospects of academic, university, and industrial science. Schools in science.

42. **Sociodynamics of the scientific community.** Stratification structure, hierarchy, and the phenomenon of the elite in science. The problem of “scientific democracy.”

43. **Scientific communication and the network organization of science.** Forms of dialogue, controversy, and debate. The nature of competition and conflicts in science and ways to resolve them.

44. **Social regulation and the praxeological function of science.** The role of science in the development of modern social technologies: economic, political, managerial, and educational.

45. **Value dimensions of science.** Science as a value in modern culture. The instrumental and ideological value of science: scientism and anti-scientism.

46. **The ethics of science and the scientific ethos.** Values and norms of the scientific community. Problems of motivation, recognition, creative freedom, and social control.

47. **Specific features of the development of science in the Republic of Belarus.** The status of national science in the culture of Belarus and its integration into the global research space.

48. **The specifics of natural science knowledge.** The object, method, cognitive tools, and language of natural science knowledge and technology. Typology of systemic objects.

49. **The genesis and evolution of classical natural science.** The general scientific status of the mechanistic picture of the world and the fundamental role of physics.

50. **The formation of non-classical natural science.** The philosophical significance of relativity, quantum mechanics, cosmology, cybernetics, and the synthetic theory of evolution.

51. **Post-non-classical natural science.** Objects, subject matter, and methodological features of modern natural science. The interdisciplinary status of synergetics and the greening of science.

52. **Philosophy of technology and technics.** The subject, structure, and historical evolution of technology. The concept of technical reality and the sociodynamics of the technosphere.

53. **The technostructure of the XXI century.** The globalization of technical systems, nanotechnology, and biotechnology. Criteria for assessing the sociocultural and socioecological consequences of technological development.

54. **Engineering thinking and design.** The main parameters of engineering activity: discovery, invention, innovation, and design. Anthropotechnical complexes and technocratic concepts.

55. **Virtual reality as a sociocultural phenomenon.** Computerization, mediatization of modern society, and new mechanisms of social control over individuals.

56. **The specifics of social and humanitarian knowledge.** Society and man as subjects and objects of knowledge. Distinctive features of social facts and values.

57. **Research programs in social sciences.** The naturalistic program (reductionism, organicism), the cultural-historical program, psychological programs, and the materialistic understanding of history.

58. **The problem of truth and values in social sciences and humanities.** Objectivity of knowledge and the methodological status of interpretive procedures (hermeneutics).

59. **The disciplinary structure of social and humanitarian sciences.** Philosophical and methodological foundations of historical, political, legal, and economic sciences.

60. **The methodology of global modeling and social forecasting.** Global problems, glocalization trends, the network community, and the problems of national identity and cultural security (with reference to the Republic of Belarus).

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