

Rules and Regulations for Ph.D. Degree Programme (2020-21)

These rules and regulations regarding Ph.D. degree programme are framed in accordance with the UGC Regulations (Minimum standard and procedure for an award of Ph.D. degree), Regulation, 2016; published in the Gazette of India on 05th May, 2016.

1. ELIGIBILITY

The applicant shall have to fulfill one of the following conditions for an admission to a Ph.D. programme.

- 1.1. Candidates for admission to the Ph.D. programme shall have a Master's degree or a professional degree declared equivalent to the Master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 7-point scale (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) or an equivalent degree from a foreign educational institution recognized under a law in its home country.
- 1.2. A relaxation of 5% of marks, from 55% to 50%, or an equivalent relaxation of grade, may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/ differently-abled and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time, or for those who had obtained their Master's degree prior to 19th September, 1991. The eligibility marks of 55% (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) and the relaxation of 5% to the categories mentioned above are permissible based only on the qualifying marks without including the grace mark.
- 1.3. Candidates who have cleared the M.Phil. course work with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale if a grading system is followed and have successfully completed the M.Phil. Degree shall be eligible to proceed to do research work leading to the Ph.D. degree in the same university in an integrated programme. The candidates possessing a degree considered equivalent to M.Phil degree of an Indian institution or from a foreign recognized institution, shall be eligible for Ph.D. programme.
- 1.4. A person whose M.Phil. dissertation has been evaluated and the viva voce is pending is also eligible for admission to the Ph.D. programme of the university, subject to the conditions mentioned above.
- 1.5. The candidates, who have UGC-NET (including JRF/AYUSH-NET) / UGC - CSIR NET (including JRF / SLET / valid GATE / GPAT / Project Fellows / Teacher fellowship or DST inspire fellowship, DBT fellowship, or Quality improvement programme (QIP), National Doctoral Fellowship Scheme (NDF) of AICTE or have passed M.Phil. will be exempted from appearing at the 'All India Entrance Test' for the Ph.D. admissions. However, these candidates will have to appear for Interview before the committee appointed by the University. These candidates should fill the form available online and pay registration fee of Rs. 1,500 /-.
- 1.6. The candidates appearing for the final year of the post-graduate examination can also appear for the Entrance Test. However, he/she will have to submit the result of qualifying examination at the time of interview, failing which his/her claim for admission, will get automatically cancelled.
- 1.7. 15% of seats over and above the total number of seats notified by the University in each subject are allocated to the Foreign / NRI / PIO candidates. Such candidates will have to appear for an interview before the Committee constituted by university authorities.

2. The Duration of the programme:

- 2.1. The Ph.D. programme shall be for a minimum duration of three years, including course work and a maximum of six years.
- 2.2. Extension beyond the above limit will be governed by the rules and regulations of the university.
- 2.3. The women candidates and persons with disability (more than 40% disability) may be allowed relaxation of two years for Ph.D. in the maximum duration.

3. Procedure for Admission

- 3.1. The admissions to a Ph.D. degree programme will be based on the merit obtained by the candidate in an 'All India Entrance Test' conducted by the University and fulfilment of the eligibility conditions.
- 3.2. The 'All India Entrance Test' will have 50% weightage for Research Methodology and 50% weightage for prescribed syllabus of respective subjects.
- 3.3. The written entrance test will be of 100 marks for duration of three hours. A candidate must score minimum 50% of marks (relaxation of 5% of marks from 50% to 45% for candidates belonging to SC/ST/differently abled category) in the test to qualify for the admission. Only those candidates who have scored 50% and more for the written test will be eligible to appear for the interview.
- 3.4. The written entrance test will be in English language only and consist of two sections: Section – I (First) will be on Research Methodology and will carry 50 marks. Section – II (Second) will be on the respective subject and will also carry 50 marks. Each section will carry seven questions and the candidate has to attempt any five of the given questions. The syllabus for both the sections is available on the university website.
- 3.5. In addition, the successful candidates have to appear for interview before a duly constituted departmental research committee which carries 50 marks where the candidate is required to present his/her research area/interest through presentation.
- 3.6. The candidate has to appear for the interview as a part of the admission process so as to prove the competence for the proposed research leading to new/additional knowledge in the area of respective subject.
- 3.7. The subject-wise final merit list of successful candidates will be notified on the university website within the stipulated time.
- 3.8. The candidates will be given admission to the Ph.D. degree programme according to their inter-se-merit in the Entrance Test, performance of the candidate at the interview and the availability of seats in the subject concerned. The Exempted candidate will be evaluated for 150 marks. Only a pre-determined number of seats, as mentioned in the Information Brochure, shall be admitted to Ph.D. degree programme in a given subject.
- 3.9. The candidate who has been declared as qualified for admission shall have to apply for the same in prescribed application form along with the prescribed fees and the following documents.
 - a) Authenticated copies of original statement of marks and degree certificates (Graduate, Post-graduate degree, M.Phil. NET / SLET etc.);
 - b) Migration/ Transference certificate;
 - c) Research Visa from a competent authority (for Foreign/NRI/PIO candidates).
- 3.10. The merit of the candidates scoring equal marks will be decided on the basis of marks obtained by them at P.G. degree examination.

- 3.11. The candidate must note that, mere registration on the website or appearance at the entrance test and inclusion of name in the merit list does not necessarily mean that he/she will get admission to the Ph.D. degree programme. The admission will be based on the pre-requisite qualifications as per the UGC (Minimum standard and procedures for award of Ph.D. degree) regulations, 2016.

4. Allocation of Research Supervisor/Guide:

- 4.1. The allocation of the research guide for a candidate selected for Ph.D. programme shall be decided by the departmental Research Committee appointed by the University in the concerned subject. The allocation of research Supervisor/guide will depend upon the availability of guides with the required specialization and the research interest of the candidate as indicated during interview process.
- 4.2. All other conditions of the Ph.D. programme will be in accordance with UGC (Minimum standard and procedures for award of Ph.D. degree) regulations, 2016.

5. Course Work

- 5.1 Credit requirements and minimum standards for Completion: The Course-work is a pre requisite for Ph.D. programme. The Pre-Ph.D coursework will comprise of 14 credits and span for a minimum duration of six months. Teaching pedagogy would be classroom teaching, moocs, seminars, presentations, etc. Mode of evaluation for courses will be University evaluation. The credits assigned to Ph.D. Course work shall be as follows with one credit being equivalent to 15 clock hours of teaching.

The Pre-Ph.D. Syllabus comprises of four papers as follows:

I.	Research Methodology	:	4 credits
II.	Recent advances in the subject	:	4 credits
III.	Presentations on proposed research work	:	4 credits
	((a) Presentations on review of literature	:	2 Credits
	(b) Presentations on area of research	:	2 Credits.)
IV.	Research and Publications Ethics (RPE)	:	2 credits
		:	14 Credits

6. Research Work

- 6.1. After satisfactory completion of the course work, the student shall submit five copies of his/her Ph.D. research proposal to the University.
- 6.2. For each Ph.D. scholar there shall be Research Advisory committee appointed by the university with the concerned research supervisor of the scholar as the convener. The committee will review the research proposal and finalise the topic of research.

The research scholar shall appear before the Research Advisory Committee once in six months to make a presentation of the progress of his/her work for evaluation and further guidance. The six monthly progress reports shall be submitted by the Research Advisory Committee to the University with a copy to the research scholar.

- 6.3. The student will not be ordinarily allowed to submit his/her thesis before completion of the mandatory period from the date of his/her registration.

Please Note: If the PhD research scholar does not submit three (3) consecutive six monthly progress reports to BVDU, the PhD registration can be cancelled.

- 6.4. The student's registration for Ph.D. programme will be valid for a period of six years from the date of his/her provisional registration. If the student fails to submit his/her thesis within this period, an extension may be given as per the rule and regulations of the university on his/her request. If he/she fails to submit his/her thesis even within the extended period, his/her registration will stand cancelled and he/she will have to re-register for the course.
- 6.5. Change in Title of Thesis: The student will be permitted by the university to make minor changes in the title of his / her thesis on the recommendations of the Supervisor. However, such a change should not be such as would change the theme of research substantively. Such a change in the title will be allowed only once and that too only within one year prior to the submission of thesis to the University.

7. Requirements for submission of thesis:

A student will be allowed to submit the Ph.D. thesis to the University only if,

- 7.1. He/she has submitted, through his/ her guide, all six monthly progress reports to the University in time.
- 7.2. He/she has made presentations before the Research Advisory Committee, detailing the progress made in his/her research work.
- 7.3. He/she has published at least two research papers in a referred standard journals (at least UGC prescribed journals) based on his/her Ph.D. research and has presented two research paper in conferences / seminars and produces evidence for the same in the form of a reprint of the paper or at least a letter of acceptance.
- 7.4. The Ph.D. scholar has made a presentation before the concerned Research Advisory Committee based on a draft of the thesis and he/she has suitably incorporated the feedback and comments, if any, into the draft thesis.
- 7.5. While submitting the thesis the research scholar and the research supervisor shall submit a certificate attesting to the originality of the work and vouching that there is no plagiarism and that the work has not been submitted for the award of any other degree/diploma of this university or to any other institution. The facility for checking plagiarism is made available at the concerned research centre. The research scholar has to produce the certificate of the same and submit it along with the thesis to the university. The university will follow the UGC guideline regarding plagiarism
- 7.6. After fulfilling the above mentioned conditions, the Ph.D. scholar shall submit to the university, three hard copies along with soft copies of the thesis duly recommended and endorsed by his/her research supervisor. The copies should also include all the mandatory certificates and declarations.
- 7.7. The thesis should contain a declaration from the research scholar that the work presented in his/her thesis is an original work and has not been submitted earlier for an award of any degree or diploma. It should be clearly mentioned in the declaration that whatever material he/she has borrowed from other sources and incorporated in thesis has been duly acknowledged. It should be specifically mentioned in the declaration that the student will be held responsible and accountable for an evidence of plagiarism, if any, detected later on.
- 7.8. The open viva-voce examination of the research scholar to defend the thesis shall be conducted only if the evaluation reports of the external examiners on the thesis are satisfactory and include a specific recommendation for conducting the viva-voce examination. If the evaluation report of any one of the external examiners is unsatisfactory and does not recommend viva-voce, the university shall send the thesis to another external examiner out of the approved panel of examiners and the viva-voce examination shall be held only if the report of the latest examiner is satisfactory. The thesis shall be rejected and the research scholar shall be declared ineligible for the award of the degree, if the report of the latest examiner is also unsatisfactory.