

Guidelines for Award of Ph D Degree in consonance with UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for award of Ph D Degree) Regulations 2022 (adopted by the Research Council at its 31st meeting held on 15thNovember 2022 and confirmed by the Academic Council at its 79th meeting held on 20th December 2022) and IGNOU Research Ordinance and Regulations

Registration

- Depending upon the position of vacant seats in the various disciplines, admission to Ph.D. Programme shall take place in July session every year. The admission schedule shall be announced through advertisement on the IGNOU website and/ or in National newspapers for session indicating the Ph.D. Programmes which are on offer during the session.
- 1.2 Every school shall provide discipline wise and reservation category-wise by maintaining the Ph.D. reservation roaster register of 200 points roaster. The roaster points are to be applied which have not been consumed (it means that the points which have already been consumed previously cannot be used unless it reaches 200 points). Once such allotment reaches at 200 points, again it will restart from S.No.1 of the 200-roaster point. For example, if a discipline has 5 vacant seats, the roaster point applied will start from S.No.1 to 5. For next year admission session if the vacancies are 6 in the same discipline, then the roaster point will start from S.No.6 to 11 of the 200 roaster points and so on. The school, while sending the vacancy positions (categories-wise) to the Research Unit for the preparation of the information brochure, shall ensure the maintenance of the 200 points roaster as explained above.
- 1.3 Five percent (5%) seats shall be reserved for Persons With Disabilities (with not less than 40% disability) and shall be adjusted against the appropriate category (Gen/SC/ST/OBC) to which they belong.
- 1.4 The applications will be submitted through online mode. The schedule of the admission related activities like getting the position of the vacant seats from the Disciplines offering Ph.D. Programme, notification of the advertisement on the website/newspaper, preparation of the information brochure, last date of submission of application, setting and moderation of Entrance Test Question Papers, fixing the date of the Entrance examination, Evaluation of the answer scripts, Meeting of the Doctoral Research Committee, School Board for the purpose of finalization of the admission, meeting of the RC/RCSC, uploading the results on the website, etc., will be prepared by the Research Unit, concerned Schools and Divisions of the University.
- 1.5 The duration of the programme will be counted from the date of commencement of the academic session or from the date of admission letter whichever is later.
- 2. **Doctoral Research Committee (DRC)**: The Constitution and Functioning of Doctoral Research Committee shall be as per the provisions contained in IGNOU Regulations for Conducting Research Degree Programmes (IRCRDP), as amended from time to time in consonance with UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M Phil/ Ph D Degree) Regulations 2022 as amended from time to time.
- 2.1 Research Programme Coordinator: Each discipline shall choose the Research Programme Coordinator for a term of two years. This position shall rotate among the faculty members, who are

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eligible to be Research Supervisors. The term of two years may be extended in special cases by recording the reasons. Another faculty member may also be designated as Co-Research Programme Coordinator to facilitate the research related activities.

- 3. Eligibility criteria for admission to the Ph.D. Programme.-
- 3.1 The Eligibility criteria for admission to Ph.D. Programme shall be as per the provisions contained in IGNOU Regulations for Conducting Research Degree Programmes (IRCRDP) 2019, in consonance with UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations 2022 as amended from time to time.
- 3.2 The following are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme:
- 3.2.1 Candidates who have completed: 1-year/2-semester master's degree programme after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme or a 2-year/4-semester master's degree programme after a 3-year/6 semesters bachelor's degree programme or qualifications declared equivalent to the master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed.

or

equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of the educational institution.

- 3.2.2 A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.
- 3.2.3 Provided that a candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.
- 3.3 Candidates who have completed the M.Phil. programme with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to the Ph.D. programme. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.
- 4. **Duration of the Programme:-** The Duration of the Ph.D. programme shall be as per the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of MPhil/ Ph.D. Degree) Regulations 2022 as amended from time to time.





- 4.1 Ph.D. Programme shall be for a minimum duration of three (3) years, including course work and a maximum duration of six (6) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme. However, all the candidates admitted to the PhD Programme shall be required to complete the course work prescribed by the concerned discipline during the initial one or two semesters.
- 4.2 A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration as per Clause 4.5 & 4.5.1 of these Guidelines. However, the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme shall not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme.
- 4.3 Female Ph.D. scholars and Persons with Disabilities (having more than 40% disability) may be allowed an additional relaxation of two (2) years; however, the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme in such cases shall not exceed ten (10) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.
- 4.4 Female Ph.D. Scholars may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave for up to 240 days in the entire duration of the Ph.D. programme.
- 4.5 Procedure for Re-Registration Re-registration shall be allowed under the following circumstances with the recommendations of the DRC and School Board subject to the approval of the Research Council / Research Council Standing Committee as per the process mentioned in 4.5.1.
- 4.5.1 Request for re-registration shall be made through an application by the research scholar through the research supervisor duly approved by the DRC and the School Board. However, such applications shall be entertained six months prior to the maximum validity period i.e. 6 years / 8 years (for female and PWD students) except any other extraordinary circumstances recorded in writing/ and with supportive documents.

5. No Objection Certificate for Ph.D. through Part-time Mode-

- 5.1 A candidate pursuing Ph.D. programmes through part-time mode shall be required to submit a "No Objection Certificate" from his/her employer clearly stating that:
 - i. The candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis.
 - ii. His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time for research
 - iii. If required, he/she will be relieved from the duty to complete the course work.

6 PRE-PHD COURSEWORK

- 6.1 All the admitted candidates shall undergo Course Work of 16 credits in accordance with the provisions of IGNOU Regulations for Conducting Research Degree Programmes (IRCRDP) as amended from time to time in consonance with UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph D Degree) Regulations 2022 as amended from time to time.
- 6.2 All the admitted candidates shall also undergo 2 credit course work on Research and Publication Ethics as prescribed by UGC.
- 6.3 The course work shall be treated as a pre-requisite for Ph.D. preparation. A minimum of four credits shall be assigned to one or more courses on Research Methodology which could cover areas such as





Quantitative methods, Qualitative methods, Mixed Methods, Computer Applications, Research Ethics and review of published research in the relevant field, training, field work, etc. Other courses shall be advanced level courses preparing the students for Ph.D. degree.

- 6.4 The Course Work per four credit course will be delivered in the following manner:
 - Minimum Number of hours for classroom teaching learning: 30 hours
 - Minimum Number of hours for library work: 20 hours ii.
 - Minimum Number of hours for tutorial and other interactive activities: 10 hours iii.
 - Remaining 60 hrs for self study, assignment preparation, book review, term paper, group iv. discussion etc. pertaining to the area of research.
- In the case of 8 credit course, the minimum number of hours for each component of delivery will 6.5 proportionally increase.
- Eighty percent (80%) attendance in the classroom teaching is compulsory for each student 6.6 pursuing Ph.D. programme.
- Evaluation of the Course Work: There will be three components of evaluation to evaluate the 6.7 course work assigned by the DRC:

| Components of evaluation for each course | Marks | Weightage in % | Qualifying % of Marks |
|--|-------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Continuous Assessment- I* | 100 | 25 | 55 |
| Continuous Assessment –II* | 100 | 25 | 55 |
| Term End Examination | 100 | 50 | 55 |
| Total | | 100 | 55 |

- *Continuous Assessment may include various options such as assignment, term paper, field work, laboratory work, book-review, seminar, group discussions, etc. Component of Viva-Voce may be included wherever required.
- All Ph.D.scholars, irrespective of discipline, shall be required to train in teaching /education /pedagogy/writing related to their chosen Ph.D. subject during their doctoral period. Ph.D. 6.8 scholars may also be assigned 4-6 hours per week of teaching/research assistantship for conducting tutorial or laboratory work and evaluations.
- For successful completion of the Course Work, a student will be required to score 55 percent marks in Continuous Assessment - I, Continuous Assessment - II and Term End Examination. 6.9 The scores of continuous assessments and Term End Examination are not complementary to each.
- The Continuous Assessment will be done by the concerned course coordinator. 6.10
- The Term End Examination will be conducted by the Registrar, Student Evaluation Division (SED) in the month of December and June like other academic programmes of the University. 6.11

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6.12 SED will:

- i) Issue the offer letters to the paper setters for setting the question papers;
- ii) get the question papers moderated with the support of the faculties concerned in the various Schools
- iii) The Disciplines concerned/Directors of the Schools will send course-wise approved lists of paper setters/moderators/evaluators to SED.
- iv) The examination will be conducted at the Headquarters only.
- v) The answer scripts will be sent by the SED to the approved evaluators for evaluation.
- vi) SED will declare the results and issue the Grade Cards to the students in accordance with the evaluation methodology duly approved by the Academic Council/Research Council.

7. Procedure for Admission:

Selection for Admission of Ph.D. candidates who are eligible as per Clause 3:(Eligibility criteria for admission to the Ph.D. Programme) of these Guidelines for admission to Ph.D. Programme will be done in the following manner:

- Admission to the Ph.D. programme shall be as per Clause 5.3 of the IGNOU Research Regulations 2019 in consonance with UGC (minimum standards and procedure for award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations 2022.
- 7.2 For seeking PhD admission, all the candidates are required to submit online Application. Admission to the Ph D Programme shall follow a Two Stage Process which will be as follows:
 - (a) Candidates awarded with fellowship / scholarship in UGC-NET / UGC-CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests, as per the validity specified by the regulatory bodies, shall be exempted from Entrance Test and their selection will be based on interview, only. The interview shall carry 100% weightage.
 - (b). All other Candidates except mentioned at "a" above are mandatorily required to appear in the Ph.D Entrance test. The Entrance Test shall carry a weightage of 70% and 30% weightage shall be given to the interview. The syllabus of the Entrance Test shall consist of 50% of Research Methodology and 50% shall be subject specific.
 - (c) Those who secure at least 50% marks in the Entrance Test (45% marks in case of SC/ST/OBC (Non Creamy layers) / Differentlyabled persons and EWS) will be shortlisted for the interview in order of merit subject to the maximum limit of five times of the available seats.
 - (d) The list of eligible candidates shortlisted for interview shall be uploaded on the University website.
 - (e) The interview shall have three components comprising Research Methodology (40%) Subject domain (40%) and Communication Skills (20%).
 - 7.3 The interview of the candidates will be conducted by the discipline specific 'Admission Committee' comprising all eligible research supervisors in the discipline as members and the Director of the School as its Chairperson. The committee shall also necessarily include a representative faculty member from the SC / ST Category. The recommendations of the School Board shall be forwarded to the Research Unit by the concerned School in the prescribed format for placing it before the





Research Council Standing Committee (RCSC) / Research Council (RC) for final approval. After approval by the RCSC / RC the Research Unit shall issue offer of admission letters to the selected candidates.

- 7.4 A candidate who accepts the offer will remit the prescribed fee and other requisite documents within the stipulated time to the Research Unit.
- 7.5 Selected candidates will be enrolled provisionally and will undergo course work as prescribed by the DRC of the Discipline. Their Admission to PhD. Programmes will be treated confirmed after successful completion of the course work and approval of the synopsis by the RC/RCSC.
- 8. Allocation of Research Supervisor and Eligibility Criteria for a Research Supervisor
- 8.1 Allocation of Research Supervisor and Eligibility Criteria for a Research Supervisor will be as per the provisions contained in the IGNOU Regulations for Conducting Research Degree Programmes (IRCRDP) 2019.
- 8.2 Permanent faculty members working as Professor/Associate Professor with a Ph.D., and at least five research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals and permanent faculty members working as Assistant Professors with a Ph.D., and at least three research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals shall be recognized as a Research Supervisor in the University.
- 8.3 Co-Supervisors from within the same department shall be permitted only on the recommendations of the DRC and SB with valid reasons recorded in writing subject to the approval of the Competent Authority.
- 8.4 The Co-supervisors shall be allotted to a research scholar only at the initial stage of allocation of supervisor on a case-to-case basis.
- 8.5 In case of interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research work, if required, a Co-Supervisor from outside the School may be appointed with the approval of the Competent Authority.
- 8.6 Faculty members with less than three years of service before superannuation shall not be allowed to take new research scholars under their supervision. However, such faculty members can continue to supervise Ph.D. scholars (already registered under them) until superannuation and as a co-supervisor after superannuation, but not after attaining the age of 70 years.
- 8.7 The Director of the School shall ensure the change of supervisor in case of deputation / EOL / any other extraordinary circumstances with the approval of the Competent Authority.
- 8.8 At any point, the total number of Ph.D. scholars under a faculty member, either as a supervisor or a co-supervisor, shall not exceed the number prescribed in clause 9.6 of the IGNOU Regulations for conducting Research Degree Programme (IRCRDP) 2019.
- 9. Change of the Topic/Title of the Thesis-Change in the Topic/Title of the Thesis will be approved in the following manner:

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- 9.1 Change in the Topic/ Title in nature of grammatical corrections/ syntax will be approved by the Director, Research Unit on the proposal of the concerned supervisor through the Director of the School concerned and recommended by the DRC.
- 9.2 On the request of the candidate for Minor Change in the Topic of the thesis, the matter will be considered by the DRC and on the recommendations of the DRC and the School Board, the change will be approved by the Vice Chancellor. However, the minor change in the title of Ph.D. thesis can be effected within two years of provisional registration for Ph.D.
- 9.3 A request for a major change of topic may be considered within one year from the date of approval of the original topic by the Research Council. Such a request for a major change in the topic will be considered and recommended by the DRC, concerned School Board and finally will be approved by the RC/RCSC. However, the duration for completion of Ph.D will remain unchanged.

10. Progress of Research Students:

- The progress of a research scholar shall be monitored by the supervisor(s). A student is required to submit his/her six-monthly progress report in prescribed format to his/her research supervisor in the first week of January and July every year.
- 10.2 The six monthly progress reports will be presented by the student before the concerned DRC after approval of the same by the Supervisor.
- 10.3 The recommendation of the Discipline Group will be placed before the DRC and School Board for approval. The student may be required to present the progress report before the DRC as and when required.

11. Cancellation of Ph.D. registration:

- 11.1 The Cancellation of Registration of a Ph D student shall be as per Cl 8.7 of the IRCRDP, 2019.
- 11.2 In case of unsatisfactory progress over a time period of one year and/or non- submission of timely progress report, the DRC shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. In case the scholar fails to implement these corrective measures, the DRC may recommend cancellation of the Ph. D. registration of the student to the School Board. The School Board's recommendations will be forwarded to the RC/RCSC.
- 11.3 The Research Programme Coordinator will send a show cause notice to Research Scholar by speed post and email before placing his/her matter for cancellation of registration in the DRC.
- 11.4 The University also reserves the right to cancel the registration under clause 8.7 of the IRCRDP, 2019.

12. Pre-Submission and Submission of thesis:

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- 12.1 Upon satisfactory completion of course work and obtaining the marks/grade mentioned in clause 6.7 of these guidelines, the Ph.D. scholar shall be required to undertake research work and produce a draft thesis.
- 12.2 The Pre-submission seminar, to be organized by the concerned Research Programme Coordinator will be before the DRC to be chaired by the Director of the School concerned and will be open to all. The minutes of the Pre-submission seminar containing the suggestions by the faculty present in the Seminar will be recorded by the Research Programme Coordinator concerned and the copy of the same will be forwarded to the Research Unit for record.
- 12.3 A written certificate from the Supervisor that the suggestions made by the faculty in the Presubmission seminar have been duly incorporated in the thesis will be submitted by the supervisor at the time of submission of the thesis. The thesis shall be submitted by the student to his/her research supervisor between 15 to 90 days of the pre-submission seminar.
- 12.4 The research scholar will have to test his/ her thesis through anti-plagiarism software before submission as per the procedure laid down by the Research Council from time to time. In case of theses written and submitted in Hindi Language, the above condition will be relaxed till the appropriate software to scan such thesis is available.
- 12.5 The research scholar shall submit a copy in electronic form (CD) and 3 hard copies of the summary of the thesis (3000-5000 words) to his/her research supervisor. The research supervisor shall forward it along with the list of evaluators of the thesis, to the Research Unit through the Director of the School concerned. The Research Unit shall process the case for nomination of evaluators after receiving the synopsis and list of evaluators.
- 12.6 Four hard copies of thesis along with one in the electronic form shall be submitted to the Research Unit through the Director of the School concerned in the following format:
 - Soft bound/ spiral bound. After Viva Voce, one Hard Bound copy in Maroon Colour with material in Golden Colour after incorporation of errata, if any, will be submitted to the Research Unit by the research scholar for record purpose.
 - Typed/word processed on both sides of the papers in one and half-space.
 - Font size: 12 point in Times New Roman or Calibri font type, Hindi Font Size 14.
 - Margin 1.25 inch from all four sides.
 - The Theses shall include a declaration by the Research Scholar that the work reported in thesis is original and carried out by the Scholar himself/herself and that the material from other sources, if any, are duly acknowledged. The format of the certificate may be obtained from Research Unit's webpage on the IGNOU website.
 - The Theses shall also include a certificate signed by the supervisor(s) and forwarded by the Director of the School concerned about the originality of the work and successful completion of the Course Work. The formats are available on the IGNOU website, http://www.ignou.ac.in/ignou/aboutignou/icc/ru/downloads).
- 12.7. The following enclosures shall also require to be submitted along with the thesis to the Research Unit:
 - Registration fee receipts for each year till submission of thesis of PhD Programme for students admitted from July 2019 onwards.
 - Grade Card of course work

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- Approval letter of RC / RCSC regarding topic and supervisor
- Certificate of six monthly progress reports
- Certificate of Originality of Research by the candidate along with the signature of the supervisor and co-supervisor if any (to be attached with thesis) and forwarded by the Director of the School concerned.
- Certificate of at least two paper presentation in seminars/conference with proofs
- Certificate of at least one publication of paper in refereed journal with proof
- Certificate of completion of pre-submission seminar with minutes of relevant DRC
- Student have to submit 5 hard copies of the summary of the thesis at least 45 days before the submission of thesis to his research supervisor. The research supervisor shall forward it along with the list of evaluators (signed and stamped by Research supervisors) along with the minutes of SB to the Research Unit through Director of the School concerned.
- Four hard copies in Maroon Colour with material in Golden colour (Typed / word processed on both sides of the paper in one and half line space; Font size: 12 Times New Roman or Calibri font type, Hindi Font size 14. Margin 1.25 inch from all four sides)
- One copy (CD) in electronic form (segregated chapter wise with 80 recommendations in .pdf format and a complete thesis in .pdf and doc format).
- Student approval form for uploading of thesis on Shodhganga
- Certificate of self exclusion of self published work
- Co-authors' Certificate for Inclusion of Published Works in Thesis
- Anti Plagiarism Report
- Certificate regarding submission of the books / periodicals etc. in the Library of the University purchased by them for research work out of the contingency amount. (for fellowship holders only)
- Certificate regarding submission of non-consumable items in the School purchased by them for research work out of the contingency amount. (for fellowship holder only)

13 Evaluation of Thesis:

- 13.1 The thesis submitted by a Research Scholar shall be evaluated by his /her Research Supervisor and at least two external examiners who are not in the employment of the University, of whom one examiner may be from outside the country, nominated by the Vice Chancellor. The name of the external examiners included in the panel of evaluators will be placed by the Chairperson in the meeting of the School Board for consideration and approval.
- The report of the evaluation will be given on a prescribed format to be sent to the evaluator by the Research Unit.
- 13.3 All efforts should be made so as to complete the entire process of the evaluation of Ph D thesis within a period of six months from the date of submission of the thesis.
- In case, any examiner suggests certain modifications in writing or re-submission of the thesis, the same should be communicated in writing to the candidate, who will be asked to resubmit the thesis with all the modifications within six months. The research supervisor(s) will ensure that the suggestions of the examiner are adequately addressed before resubmission of the thesis. The modified thesis shall be referred again to the examiner concerned for re-evaluation.



- 13.5 If one of the external examiners does not recommend the thesis for the award of a Ph.D. degree, the thesis shall be referred to another examiner for independent evaluation. If the third external examiner recommends the thesis for the award, the viva voce examination shall be organized. However, if this examiner also rejects the thesis, the thesis shall be deemed to be rejected by the University.
- 13.6 The examiners' reports will be communicated to the school concerned and the Supervisor to be shared with the candidate prior to the viva-voce examination to enable her/him to address the issues raised therein while preparing to defend the thesis.
- 13.7 The viva voce examination shall be conducted by the concerned School at IGNOU Headquarters as an open defence of the thesis by a panel comprising one of the external examiners nominated by the Vice-Chancellor and the supervisor(s) of the candidate. The Director concerned shall be the Chairperson of the panel. The Supervisor from IGNOU shall be the Convener of the panel. In case of non-availability of the internal supervisor due to any reason or no-internal supervisor from IGNOU, the Research Programme Coordinator will organize the Viva-voce. The date for open defence, venue, and topic of the thesis with a brief abstract shall be communicated to the Research Unit by the Director of the School concerned. This should also be given wide publicity by the school concerned so as to facilitate larger participation.
- 13.8 The report of the viva voce examination prepared by the External Examiner and the Research Supervisor(s) will be sent to the Research Unit through the Director of the School concerned. The report shall be placed before the Vice Chancellor for approval of the award of the Degree.
- 13.9 The Research Unit will communicate the approval of the Vice-Chancellor along with evaluation reports and joint report of the viva-voce examination to the Student Evaluation Division for issuance of the Provisional Certificate and Notification.
- 13.10 The award of the Degree will be placed before the Academic Council for ratification and the notification will be issued by the Registrar (SED).
- 13.11 The PhD degree will be awarded at the Annual Convocation.

14. Issuing a Provisional certificate

Prior to the actual award of the Ph.D. degree, the University shall issue a provisional certificate (within 15 days from the date of notification) to the effect that the Ph.D. is being awarded in accordance with the provisions of UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for the Award of PhD Degree) Regulations, 2016 / 2022 as the case may be.

- 15. Award of Ph.D. degrees prior to Notification of UGC (Minimum Standards and procedure for award of Ph D Degree) Regulations 2022:
- 15.1 Award of degrees to candidates registered for the Ph.D. programme on or after July 11, 2009, till the date of Notification of UGC (Minimum Standards and procedure for award of Ph D Degree) Regulations 2022 shall be governed by the provisions of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2009 or the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016 as the case may be.





15.2 Award of degrees to candidates registered for the Ph.D. programme on or after 7thNovember, 2022 shall be governed by UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022.

16. Depository with INFLIBNET

Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and before the announcement of the award of the Ph.D. degree(s), the University shall submit an electronic copy of the Ph.D. thesis to INFLIBNET, for hosting the same so as to make it accessible to all the Higher Educational Institutions and research institutions as per the prescribed format amended from time to time by INFLIBNET.

17. Grievance Redressal

The Research Programme Coordinator will place the representations/grievances raised by the Research Scholars before the DRC of the Discipline concerned. The DRC will consider and resolve the grievance of the scholar. In case the research scholar is not satisfied with the decision of the DRC, he/she may submit his/her grievance to the Grievance Redressal Committee constituted by the RC/RCSC. The recommendations of the Committee will be submitted to the Vice Chancellor whose decision will be final. Grievance Redressal Committee will be as per the composition prescribed in the code of conduct for Research scholars.

18. Miscellaneous

- 18.1 Records related to admission, registration, payment of fees, and other learner records will be maintained by the Research Unit. The relevant information on the payment of fee by the research scholar will be regularly communicated by the Research Unit to the respective Disciplines enabling them to keep an update on the status of the research scholar.
- 18.2 The applications of the registered Ph.D scholars seeking 'No Objection Certificate' for issue of Visa will be considered by the Research Unit if the student has been invited to present a paper in any International Conference/Seminar/Workshop etc., conducted by the Institutions located abroad. In such cases, 'No Objection Certificate' can be issued by the Research Unit without any financial liability on the University.
- 18.3 After Pre-submission Seminar of a candidate, the seat of the supervisor under whose supervision he/she was registered will be treated as vacant.
- 18.4 The Ph D Guidelines shall be amended in consonance with the UGC Regulations as amended from time to time.

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