

Ordinance VI-B. Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D)

1. The degree of Doctor of Philosophy may be granted in any Faculty of the University.
2. All academic matters related to this degree shall be supervised by a Departmental Research Committee consisting of the following:
 - (i) Head of the Department (Chair);
 - (ii) One Professor (a nominee of the Vice- Chancellor);
 - (iii) Professors in the Department subject to a maximum of four by rotation according to seniority;
 - (iv) Two Readers in the Department by rotation according to seniority;
 - (v) Two Lecturers in the Department qualified to be Supervisor(s) by rotation according to seniority;
 - (vi) Two Lecturers in the Colleges qualified to be Supervisor(s), one under the category of teachers with less than 10 years of service, and the other from among those having more than 10 years of service, by rotation according to seniority.

Where Departments have a strength of less than ten teachers, all members will be members of the Departmental Research Committee.

The term of the Departmental Research Committee will be for a period of two years.

3. The student intake will be regulated in each Department as per the availability of seats according to the norm of Professor — 8 students, Reader — 6 students, and Lecturer — 4 students, by the Departmental Research Committee. However, in such cases where teachers are retiring or leaving and where redistribution / reallocation of their Ph.D students to other faculty members is required, the norm can be relaxed by the Departmental Research Committee and the Board of Research Studies. The Departmental Research Committee shall also appoint Supervisor(s)/Joint Supervisor(s) which will be reported to the Board of Research Studies.
4. The following categories of candidates can be registered for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy by the Departmental Research Committee, provided that they fulfill the eligibility conditions:
 - 4A. Students having fellowships/scholarships instituted by the University / national and international agencies under schemes approved /recognized by the University, through procedure laid down by the University, may be registered provisionally by the Departmental Research Committee and Board of Research Studies, and confirmed after completion of course work, by the respective Board of Research Studies.

- 4B. Students who are otherwise eligible for admission to the Ph.D. Programme and do not have any financial assistance, will be admitted through an entrance examination to be conducted by the respective departments or / and through an interview by the Departmental Research Committee. Students provisionally admitted to the Ph.D. Programme through an entrance examination or interview will be awarded University Grants Commission fellowships for programmes of doctoral research or any other fellowship that is launched by the national agencies. The number of fellowships under this category will be determined annually by the Department.
- 4C. Foreign students with their national or other fellowships recognized by the University or sponsored by their employers, may be given provisional admission, followed by confirmation through due process after a stipulated period of time.
- 4D. The University / College teachers holding a permanent, temporary or ad hoc positions and having completed two years of service as teacher in a Department / Constituent Colleges of the University of Delhi.
- 4E. Candidates sponsored by their employers shall be considered only if they get study leave for a period of two years to fulfill residency requirements of the University of Delhi.
- 4F. Permanent teachers / employees who are in service in any other recognized University / College / Research Institute in India and have a minimum of three years teaching / research experience, will be considered if they get study leave for a period of two years to fulfill residency requirements of the University of Delhi.
5. To be eligible for admission to the Ph.D. Programme, a candidate must have obtained a Master's / M.Phil. degree of the University of Delhi, or any other recognized University, or any degree recognized as equivalent in the subject in which the candidate wishes to pursue a course of research, or in an allied subject. She / he must have obtained either a minimum of 50% marks or equivalent grading in the M.Phil. degree or a minimum of 55% marks or equivalent grading in the Master's degree .
6. Students who were initially registered for the M.Phil. programme of the University and who obtain a score of 60% or more marks in Part I examination of the M.Phil. programme would be eligible for admission to the doctoral programme without completing their M.Phil. degree on the specific recommendation of the Departmental Research Committee. Such students shall be granted fellowships as provided in 4B.
7. Candidates with four years or more than four year Bachelor degrees, viz. B.Tech. and M.B.B.S with 70% and 60% marks or equivalent grades respectively, who have obtained any of the national level fellowships, may be admitted provisionally in the Ph.D. programme. Such students will be required to go through two semester course work which will be prescribed by the Departmental Research Committee and reported to the Board of

Research Studies, and other stipulated requirements like the Departmental seminar on the proposed research. They will qualify for confirmed registration after successful completion of the course work, and other stipulated requirements.

8. Candidates with M.Tech. / M.Phil. / LL.M. / M.C.A. / M.D. / M.S. degree of the University of Delhi or candidates holding an equivalent degree from any other institute / university recognized by the University of Delhi, if they have obtained any of the national level fellowships can be provisionally admitted for the Ph.D. programme. Such students will be exempted from the stipulated requirement of course work and may be confirmed within six months on the basis of criteria laid down by the Departmental Research Committee and the Board of Research Studies.

In the Faculty of Law, a student holding LL.B who obtains a score of 60% or more marks may be admitted to the Ph.D. programme subject to the provision that the student shall pass in the course work of LL.M. first year. The process of selection shall be as in 4.

9. The provisional registration of the students done by the Department shall require ratification by the Board of Research Studies of the Faculty to which the Department belongs. All the records of registration and progress of research work done by the students shall be maintained both by the Department and the Board of Research Studies.

Each faculty shall have a Board of Research Studies.

- 9A. The composition of Board of Research Studies for multiple Department faculties will be as follows:

- (i) Dean of the Faculty;
- (ii) The Heads of the Departments concerned;
- (iii) One Professor from each Department by rotation according to seniority;
- (iv) One Reader from each Department by rotation according to seniority;
- (v) One Lecturer qualified to be Supervisor(s) from each Department by rotation based on seniority;
- (vi) One Lecturer qualified to be supervisor from each subject amongst teachers from colleges of the University by rotation according to seniority.

- 9B. The composition of the Board of Research Studies for a single Department faculty will be as follows:

- (i) The Dean of the Faculty (and three Professors-in charge in the Faculty of Law);
- (ii) Two Professors to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor;
- (ii) Three Professors by rotation according to seniority;
- (iii) Two Readers by rotation according to seniority;
- (iv) Two Lecturers qualified to be Supervisor(s) based on seniority;
- (v) One Lecturer qualified to be Supervisor amongst teachers from colleges of the University by rotation according to seniority.

- 9C. Dean of the Faculty will be the Chairman for the respective Board of Research Studies.

The term of the Board of Research studies will be for a period of two years.

10. Students who are provisionally registered for the Degree of Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph.D.) will be required to take a minimum of two courses and up to a maximum of eight courses as per the decision of the Departmental Research Committee. Each course will be of three hours instructions/studies per week. The course work should be completed in a period of two semesters not exceeding one academic year from the date of the provisional registration. Doctoral students may be permitted to take courses in related and allied subjects being offered by other Departments of the University. The students shall be evaluated at the end of each semester. If a student is not able to pass a course with 50% marks, the student shall be allowed to reappear in the examination within 12 months.

The provisional admission in the Ph.D. programme will be confirmed by the Departmental Research Committee and the Board of Research Studies only after the successful completion of course work and completion of other formalities like defence of the thesis topic in a departmental seminar.

11. Other stipulations and procedures are as follows:
- (i) Every candidate shall have an Advisory Committee consisting of the Supervisor(s) and two other members suggested by the Supervisor(s). The members can be from the Departments/Colleges of the University or outside the University but within the National Capital Territory of Delhi. One member of the Advisory Committee, besides the Supervisor(s), should be from the University.
 - (ii) The Departmental Research Committee, on the recommendation of the Supervisor, may appoint scholars of eminence who may be residing in India or abroad, as Joint Supervisor(s). The student, if required, may be ordinarily permitted to do research for a maximum of 12 months in the institute of the Joint Supervisor. Any extension shall require the prior approval of Departmental Research Committee.
 - (iii) In cases where the Supervisor has three or lesser number of years before retirement, a Joint Supervisor shall be mandatory.
 - (iv) A Reader/Lecturer in Departments / Colleges of the University holding a Ph.D. degree and three years of teaching or post doctoral experience, shall be eligible to supervise / jointly supervise students. However, a Professor who has been appointed under the eminent scholar category can supervise Ph.D. students irrespective of whether he / she holds a Ph.D. degree or not.
 - (v) Following the provisional admission of the student, the appointments of the Supervisor(s) and Advisory Committee shall be reported by the

Departmental Research Committee to the Board of Research Studies. Reports on the progress (on an annual basis as based on presentations and seminar) of the course work will be processed by the Departmental Research Committee and sent to the Board of Research Studies for confirmation of admission of the candidate. The Board shall be responsible for ascertaining that the procedures have been followed.

- (vi) Registration of students in the Ph.D. programme may be confirmed by the Board of Research Studies, in August and February, based on the recommendations of the Departmental Research Committee.
- (vii) Subsequent to confirmation and prior to completion of five years, a student who is a teacher in the University of Delhi, may deregister for purposes of employment or any other purpose and re-register within three years of deregistration on the recommendation of the Departmental Research Committee and the Board of Research Studies and the consent of the Vice-Chancellor. On re-registration, the student must submit the Ph.D. thesis after a minimum period of one year and within a period such that the total span of the initial registration and re-registration is not more than five years.
- (viii) Every candidate shall pursue research in the University or a recognized institution in Delhi for not less than two calendar years after the date of provisional registration. The student may be permitted by the Board of Research Studies, on the recommendation of the Supervisor(s), to be absent from Delhi for ordinarily not more than 2 semesters on the ground that it is in the interest of her / his research.
- (ix) The Advisory Committee will function till the completion of the doctoral work of a candidate. It will advise the student on course work and research work on a regular basis. The Advisory Committee shall meet at least once in a year to record in writing the progress of the work. These records will be kept by the Board of Research Studies.
- (x) Students can be assigned participation in some academic work like assisting teaching of science practicals, checking assignments, etc. as per their fellowship scheme or as decided by the Departmental Council. This work should not be more than six hours a week.
- (xi) Absence from research work by students due to illness, maternity leave or other circumstances must be reported by the Supervisor(s) to the Board of Research Studies through the Head of the Department and Departmental Research Committee. Neglect of research work or any other acts of indiscipline must be recorded and reported to the Departmental Research Committee and the concerned Board of Research Studies.
- (xii) Cases of neglect of research work and indiscipline that include unethical practices such as plagiarism and misrepresentation of data must be reported to the Department, the Board of Research Studies and the

University administration.

- (xiii) No candidate shall undertake any employment during the period of her /his study without the permission of the Supervisor(s) and the Departmental Research Committee which will then be reported to the Board of Research Studies.
- (xiv) No candidate shall, without the permission of the Supervisor(s), the Departmental Research Committee and the Board of Research Studies enroll any other course of study which is not stipulated as an essential requirement for the Ph.D. programme by the Department.
- (xv) No candidate shall appear in any examination conducted by the University or a public body without informing the Supervisor(s) and the Departmental Research Committee.
- (xvi) Before the doctoral thesis is submitted, the research findings will be discussed in a departmental seminar. In case issues related to Intellectual Property Rights are involved, necessary patents shall be filed before disclosure in the final seminar. The Supervisor(s), the Joint Supervisor(s) and the Advisory Committee shall provide an undertaking in the beginning, or whenever deemed fit, that they will maintain the confidentiality of the research till patents are filed.
- (xvii) Students shall submit their thesis within four years of provisional registration. A six month extension for submission can be granted by the Board of Research Studies on a written request by the student and recommendation of the Supervisor(s). Any extension beyond this shall require a written justification for the delay by the student and the Supervisor(s). Such extension shall require the approval of the Vice-Chancellor.
- (xviii) A candidate shall be permitted to submit her / his thesis after her / his Supervisor(s) certifies that the thesis presented is worthy of consideration for the award of a Ph.D. degree. The application for submission of the thesis will be countersigned by the Head of the Department. A candidate, after completion of research, shall submit the thesis to the University at any time during working hours of the University.

The thesis must be a piece of research work characterized either by the discovery of new facts, or by a fresh interpretation of facts or theories. In either case, it should evince the candidate's capacity for critical examination and judgment. It must be satisfactory as far as its language and presentation are concerned.

The candidate may incorporate in her/his thesis the contents of any work which she/he may have published on the subject and shall indicate the same in the thesis. However, she/he shall not submit as her/his thesis any work for which a degree has been conferred on her/him by this or any other University.

- (xix) The candidate shall submit four printed or typed copies of the thesis and an electronic copy.
- (xx) Supervisor(s) of the candidate shall, six weeks in advance of the submission of thesis, forward seven copies of Abstract of the thesis including table of contents for consideration by the Departmental Research Committee, to the concerned Head of the Department, under intimation to the Controller of Examinations, University of Delhi. The Head of the Department shall take immediate steps for convening a meeting of the Departmental Research Committee to consider appointment of external examiners. The Supervisor(s) of the thesis, if she/he/they is/are not member(s) of the Departmental Research Committee, shall be invited at the said meeting of the Departmental Research Committee for consultation in regard to recommending the panel of a minimum of 6 external examiners who shall be eminent scholars and specialists in the area of the thesis. The recommendations of the Departmental Research Committee shall be reviewed by the concerned Board of Research Studies and considered by the Academic Council. The examiners shall be appointed by the Executive Council. Three examiners out of the panel so approved shall be appointed for evaluation of each thesis.
- (xxi) The examiners may recommend that the degree be awarded subject to satisfactory open viva voce test on the thesis, or that the thesis may be rejected, or that the thesis be resubmitted.
- (xxii) In the event that all the three examiners unanimously recommend award of degree, the same shall be done after a satisfactory open viva voce test.
- (xxiii) In the event that two or more examiners reject the thesis, the thesis shall be rejected and registration of the candidate closed.
- (xxiv) In the event that two examiners recommend resubmission and one examiner recommends acceptance of the thesis or all three examiners recommend resubmission, the candidate shall be required to revise and resubmit the thesis as per the rules governing resubmission of thesis.
- (xxv) In the event that one examiner accepts the thesis, one examiner rejects the thesis and one examiner recommends resubmission, or in the event that two examiners recommend resubmission and one examiner recommends rejection, the thesis shall be rejected and registration of the candidate closed.
- (xxvi) In the event that two of the three examiners recommend the award of degree and the third examiner recommends rejection, the thesis shall be referred to the fourth examiner to be selected by the Vice-Chancellor from out of the original panel of examiners.
- (xxvii) In the event that two of the three examiners recommend the award of degree and the third examiner recommends resubmission, the reports of the examiners shall be sent by the Office of the Controller of

Examinations to the concerned Head of the Department who, in consultation with the Supervisor(s), shall prepare a Summary of the Recommendations of the Reports and a Summary of the Technical Parts of the Reports. These two Summaries are to be submitted along with original reports to the Committee of the Academic Council consisting of the Vice-Chancellor/Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Chairman of the concerned Board of Research Studies, Head of the concerned Department, the Supervisor(s) of the candidate, and three Professors of the University of Delhi nominated by the Vice-Chancellor.

In such cases, the Committee shall either require the candidate to revise and resubmit the thesis or refer the thesis to the fourth examiner to be selected by the Vice-Chancellor from out of the original panel of examiners. The Committee shall take only one of the above actions and the result of such an action shall be final and binding on the thesis.

(xxviii) In case of resubmission of thesis, the thesis must be resubmitted within one year from the date of supply of comments of the examiners to the candidate by the Office of the Controller of Examinations of the University of Delhi, unless extension is specifically granted by the concerned Board of Research Studies under intimation to the Committee of the Academic Council. The resubmitted thesis shall be examined only by the original Board of Examiners unless, they or any of them are/is unable or unwilling to act as the examiner. Positive recommendations from all the examiners who have agreed to examine the resubmitted thesis shall be necessarily required for award of the degree. The thesis may only be resubmitted once and a unanimous verdict of the original Board of Examiners shall be final and binding. A resubmitted thesis shall not be marked to a Fourth examiner.

(xxix) In case the Committee decides to refer the thesis to the fourth examiner, the same shall be selected by the Vice-Chancellor from out of the original panel of examiners for recommending either acceptance or rejection of the thesis. The fourth examiner so appointed shall be informed of the recommendations of the other three examiners. The recommendation of the fourth examiner shall be final and binding on the thesis. Such a thesis, examined by the Fourth Examiner, shall not be allowed to be resubmitted or marked to any further examiner and the registration of the candidate shall be closed.

12. The extent of reservations and the eligibility criteria with respect to the reserved categories of students to be admitted to the doctoral programme will be governed by guidelines issued by the University in accordance with statutory provisions.

13. Any issues concerning procedure or interpretation of the provisions contained in this ordinance shall be referred to the Vice-Chancellor whose decision shall be final. All such cases shall be reported to the Academic Council.

14. The provisions of this Ordinance will apply prospectively.
15. Transitory Provision: The provisions contained in the present Ordinance with regard to the Departmental Research Committee (Clause 2), the Board of Research Studies (Clause 9), and Examination Scheme (Clause 11(xx) to 11 (xxix) shall be applicable to candidates already registered for Ph.D. programme at the University of Delhi.