

NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY

Regulations
for the
Degree of Doctor of Philoshophy (Ph.D)



1, Woodburn Park, Calcutta-700 020

ADDENDUM

1. If the School/Discipline concerned so decides, it may ask the candidate to present her/his research proposal in a 'Research Seminar' to be organized by the School specifically for this purpose. The audience of the Research Seminar will consist of the Faculty members of the discipline(s) concerned as well as others interested in the theme. The presentation of the research proposal will be followed by an open discussion. The Director of the School will prepare the report of the seminar and communicate it to the candidate and the Research Supervisor(s) concerned with appropriate advice. Based on this report, the candidate and Research Supervisor(s) will modify, if necessary, and finalise the research proposal.

2. Notwithstanding the procedures laid down above, the Vice-Chancellor shall have the authority to approve the candidature of any candidate for registration to the Ph.D. Programme and assign Research Supervisor(s) from the approved panel in case she/he is satisfied that the request for such an approval of the candidate is in the best interests of the candidate as well as the University. The list of such candidates approved by the Vice-Chancellor will be placed before the Research Council for ratification.

The Concept of Open University

An open learning system is one in which the onus of learning is primarily on the students. Despite this, they are formally enrolled in a system which takes in other learners too. Thus, we draw a line of distinction between the above-mentioned category of students and (a) those borrowing books from Libraries and (b) those formally attached to a conventional university where classroom teaching is the principal mode of instruction.

The Open University represents an alternative approach to higher learning. It stands apart from a highly formal, institutionalized and centrally administered system of education. Its philosophy is built around the principles of universality, flexibility and innovativeness. Its ideas and institutions, its methods and procedures are all shaped accordingly. Conceptually, it can be viewed as a system drawing upon the best elements in formal and non-formal education.

The 'openness' consists of a variety of features. First, it offers easy access to the learners. The entry requirement is not too exacting. A genuine interest in picking up knowledge is all that it expects. Consequently, it would try to embrace as many learners as possible.

Second, its territorial reach is visibly wide. It aims at bringing education to the doorstep of the learner, wherever he or she may be. Various methods of communication and contact are used for this purpose. The classroom of the University, thus, is as wide as the entire land it seeks to serve.

Third, the Open University is learner-oriented. It devises its courses and methods of teaching to suit the needs of the learners. Their options and inclinations are given due priorities. A variety of courses—short-term or long-term, liberal or professional—can be pursued under the University.

Fourth, it believes in fair distribution of quality education, teaching aid, consultancy and study materials. Whatever resources the University has are made evenly available to all learners wherever or whoever he or she might be. It eliminates variations and discrimination.

Fifth, its administration is decentralized. In promoting Distance Education, the University creates a wide network of Study Centres. Students need only to come to the nearest available centre for collecting all information, completing all formalities, discussing their academic issues and appearing for evaluation of their work at intervals chosen by them.

Sixth, student assessment under Open University is based on continuous assessment and credit system. It does not require students to get bogged down in one final examination. One can study at one's own pace.

In short, the Open University seeks to open up the treasure house of knowledge to the maximum number of users. Thereby it would enhance their skills for productivity and further learning. Socially, too, the University promises steady empowerment of those who suffered backwardness for want of these skills. Considering the current trends all over the world, the Open University is going not only to complement the conventional system of higher education but may soon occupy the centre stage also in developing countries where the resources do not measure up to the vastness of the clientele.

Vision and Mission of Netaji Subhas Open University

Vision :

Netaji Subhas Open University, the state university of West Bengal, will contribute to the building up of quality human resource base of the State and collaborate with other open universities of the national and state levels towards the improvement of the quality of distance education and to promote and develop appropriate technology to create the distance education scenario of an international standard in our country keeping in view of the demands of the knowledge seekers for education appropriate to the twenty first century.

Mission :

To spread higher education in different parts of the state and to cooperate with universities to provide access to higher education and to different skill enhancing educational programmes Netaji Subhas Open University shall :

- provide quality education in a flexible mode to serve the aim of establishing an equitable knowledge society within the state, provide higher education through distance learning through the language of the state, i.e. Bengali
- make education affordable to disadvantaged
- provide facility for lifelong education to intending learners
- strive for upgradation of technology without compromising the basic values of the society
- contribute to the development of the state and the nation and to motivate learners to strive for secular, scientific and democratic education.

Regulations
for the
Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D)

1. Areas of research :

- a) Arts : all subjects
- b) Science : Mathematics, Geography, Environmental Science
- c) Commerce
- d) Management
- e) Computer Science / Application
- f) Distance Education

2. Eligibility :

- a) *Essential* : Post Graduate degree or equivalent in the related subject.
- b) *Desirable* : (i) computer literacy (ii) knowledge of research methodology

3. Application for admission :

Application for admission to PhD programme may be submitted in the prescribed form, to be obtained on payment of Rs. 100/-, at any time of the year along with a synopsis of the proposed work in about 1000 words.

4. Preparation of Research Proposal :

Candidates may consult a supervisor from amongst those in the panel of Research Guides of the University.

The panel of Research Guides is to be prepared from amongst the faculty members of the University as also from those of other universities. Joint supervision of Research will be permissible. There should not be more than five scholars under a guide ordinarily.

5. Screening of application :

The applications will be screened by the Research Advisory Committee after prior examination by the concerned school and candidates selected. All applications received by 30 September and 31 March will be considered for admission to the programme in January and July sessions respectively.

6. Process of screening :

The research Advisory Committee may follow the following procedure for deciding on the application :

- a) Recommend the candidates for direct registration on the basis of Research Proposal.
- b) Suggest the candidate to make necessary modifications and resubmit the proposal.
- c) Call the candidate for personal interview.

7. Registration :

The selected candidates will be registered for the PhD programme on payment of Registration fee of Rs. 10,000/- (exclusive of thesis examination fee). A candidate who has been offered

registration shall deposit the prescribed fee within a period of three months from the date of offer failing which the same may be treated as cancelled. The registration may also be cancelled for any one of the following reasons.

- c) Unsatisfactory progress.
- b) Failure to submit the thesis within the stipulated time.
- c) Non-compliance with the provisions of the Act, Statute and Regulations of the University.

A candidate whose registration has been cancelled for any of the aforesaid reasons may, however, apply for re-registration.

The minimum and maximum time for completion of the programme shall be two years and five years respectively from the date of registration of the programme. The maximum period may be extended upto two years on year-to-year basis with the approval of Research Advisory Committee.

The medium of dissertation shall be English except in case of literature and language courses like Hindi, Bengali etc.

8. Monitoring of the progress of Research :

Commencing from the date of registration Annual Report is to be submitted by the Research student. The supervisor shall forward it to the Research Advisory Committee along with his remarks and assessment of the work done.

9. Submission of thesis :

Prior to submission of the thesis the candidate will present the thesis in a "Pre-submission Seminar." Experts in the field will be invited to the seminar and the presentation will be followed by a discussion. After the seminar the supervisors will assess the merit of the work and allow to submit the thesis. Four copies of the hardbound thesis will have to be submitted. An examination fee, to be decided by the University, will have to be deposited at the time of submission of thesis.

10. Evaluation of thesis :

The evaluation will be done by the following referees independently.

- a) One national expert
- b) One foreign expert
- c) Research guide

The experts will be selected by the Research Advisory Committee/Vice-Chancellor. If the experts unanimously recommend the thesis for award of PhD degree, viva voce examination will be arranged. In case there is no unanimity among the referees the thesis will be rejected or referred back for re-submission along with modifications as suggested by the referees.

Examiner (s) of viva voce examination will be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor on recommendation of the Research Advisory Committee.

11. Award of the PhD degree :

Based on the reports of the referees and examiner (s) of viva voce examination the candidate will be awarded PhD degree after approval of the Academic Council.

Identity Card

(To be filled up by the candidate)

1. To be carried by the candidate whenever he/she visits any Centre/ H.Q. of the University.
2. In case of loss of the card an FIR is to be lodged and an application is to be submitted with a copy of the FIR along with a DD of Rs. 50/- (Fifty) in favour of NSOU, payable in Kolkata.
3. If this card is found by anybody it should be sent to the address on the right.



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Enrolment No. Name..... Address : Telephone No (if any) Course : Signature of the Candidate :	Name of the Study Centre <i>(To be filled up by Centre)</i> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> Attested P.P. Size Photograph <i>(To be affixed by applicant)</i> </div> Signature of the Registrar with seal
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Sl. No.

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Seal of the receiving centre

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APPLICATION FOR STUDENT ENROLMENT

SESSION : JANUARY/JULY 20

Passport size
Photograph
of applicant

To be submitted at the chosen study centre within stipulated date along with fee, photographs and attested photocopies of relevant documents.

Programme : Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D)

1. Name :

[Grid for Name]

(in block capitals)

[Grid for Name]

2. a) Address for communication :

[Grid for Address]

[Grid for Address]

PIN [Grid]

b) Telephone No : (if any) :

3. Fee Payment particulars :

Amount [Grid]

(In figure)

Amount [Grid]

(in words)

Demand Draft/ Banker's Cheque No..... date.....

Bank.....Branch.....

4. Personal Data :

(a) Date of Birth (DD-MM-YYYY) : [Grid]

(Enclose attested certificate)

(b) Sex : Male Female

(c) Category (Tick one box) : General SC ST OBC

(If category is other than general, then certificate to be attached)

(d) Father's/Husband's/Guardian's Name : [Grid]

(Tick whichever is applicable)

Address : [Grid]

