

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

ASSAM

India

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Rule

REGULATION-FOR-THE-DEGREE-OF-DOCTOR-OF-PHILOSOPHY-PH- of 1800

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Regulation for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Last Updated 11th February, 2020 [Revised Ph.D. Regulations w.e.f. 1.1.1994]

1. Eligibility.

- Any person having a Master's Degree in a subject in the Faculties of Arts, Science, Commerce, Law, Engineering and Medical Science of the University of Gauhati or any other University recognised by Gauhati University with not less than 50 (fifty) per cent of marks or equivalent grade in the subject may apply to the Academic Registrar for registration of his/her name as a candidate for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D.) in the subject or in an allied subject to be decided by the Research Council. In case of any controversy in regard to allied subject, the matter be referred to the Research Council for decision : Provided further that a candidate holding a second class Master's degree of this University with at least 5 (five) years teaching experience in an educational institution or holding an academic appointment in a recognised research laboratory/Library/Museum or Research Organisation within the State of Assam may be considered eligible by the Research Council on the recommendation of the Den of the Faculty concerned.

2. Submission of application.

- Applications (in quadruplicate) in the prescribed form, to be presented through the Head of the Department concerned with an application fee for registration will be received by the Academic Registrar. The application must be submitted through a recognised Ph.D. research guide and should be accompanied by an outline statement in quadruplicate on the subject of investigation : Provided that in areas of interdisciplinary investigations, a candidate may apply to work under the joint

supervision of two guides.

3. Recognition of Ph. D. Guides.

- The Research Council shall recognise Ph. D. research guide on the recommendations of the Ph. D. Guide Recognition Committee appointed by the Academic Council. Any teacher of University Department or an affiliated College within the territorial jurisdiction of the University and having a Doctorate Degree and/or with adequate research experience as evidenced by publications in journals of national and international standing may be recognised as Ph.D. research guide. Retired teachers of the University Departments may also be allowed to act as guide in non-laboratory subjects :Provided that any other person of recognised eminence of a research laboratory, Museum, Library or Research Institution with adequate research publications and with such other works of merit may also be recognised as a Ph.D. research guide. Such persons should normally be a resident within the territorial jurisdiction of the University ;Provided further that on the recommendation of the Research Council, the Executive Council shall have the right in very special cases, to waive the condition of research degree and territorial jurisdiction.

4. Compulsory Library Work/Laboratory Work.

- A Ph. D. candidate shall be required to work for at least six months in the University Library/Laboratory/Department or any other Library/institute/establishment recognised by the University for the purpose. The period of six months may include field work where applicable. And to this effect, the candidate shall be required to submit certificate from the Guide concerned at the time of submission of the thesis.

5. Procedure of registration.

- Every application for registration for Ph.D. Degree shall be placed before a Ph.D. Committee consisting of the Vice-Chancellor, the Dean of the Faculty concerned, the Head of the Department concerned (where applicable) and the guide(s). The Ph.D. Committee shall consider written opinion of at least one expert to be selected by the Vice-Chancellor from a panel of 4 (four) names of external experts submitted by the guide. The Ph.D. Committee will recommend provisional registration to a candidate for the Ph.D. Degree after satisfying itself that the investigations may profitably be carried out by the applicant under the guide(s) and that adequate facilities and materials will be available in the laboratory/place of research. The Ph.D. Committee shall have the discretion to modify the research topic and shall specify the faculty and the subject to which the topic belongs. On his/her candidature being provisionally accepted by the Ph.D. Committee, the applicant shall be provisionally registered on such conditions and on such topics as may be fixed by the Ph.D. Committee on payment of the prescribed registration fee.

6. Final registration.

- Candidates provisionally registered for Ph.D. Degree shall be required to apply for final

registration in the prescribed form after completion of 12 months, but not later than 18 (eighteen) months from the date of provisional registration. Candidates failing to apply for registration within 18 (eighteen) months from the date of provisional registration due to unavoidable circumstances may on the recommendation of the guide concerned may be allowed under orders of the Vice-Chancellor to apply for Final Registration up to 36 (thirty six) months from the date of Provisional Registration on payment of the prescribed late Registration fees. Provisional registration shall stand cancelled after 36 (thirty six) months from the date of registration and his/her name shall be struck off from the Ph.D. Registration Register. Applications for Final Registration shall be placed before the Ph.D. Committee. The Ph.D. Committee after satisfying itself that the candidate has made satisfactory progress in his/her research may recommend to the Research Council his/her case for final registration as a candidate for the Ph.D. Degree. While recommending the case for final registration the Ph.D. Committee shall finally fix the title of the thesis, the subject and the faculty in which the thesis should be submitted. The Research Council on the recommendation of the Ph.D. Committee may grant final registration to the candidates. The date of final registration shall be effective from the date of provisional registration.

7. Period of Research Work.

- A candidate finally registered for Ph.D. Degree may submit the thesis after completion of 2 (two) years of research work from the date of registration. But he/she shall be required to submit the thesis within 5 (five) years from the date of registration. If a candidate fails to submit the thesis within 5 (five) years from the date of registration he/she may be allowed under orders of the Vice-Chancellor to apply for extension of time up to and not exceeding 7 (seven) years from the date of registration on payment of the prescribed delay fee. The Vice-Chancellor after consideration of the circumstances in which such extension of time is sought by the applicant through the guide may grant him/her extension of time for submission of the thesis. The final registration of a candidate shall stand canceled after 7 (seven) years from the date of registration and his/her name shall be struck off from the Ph.D. Registration Register and the candidate shall not be allowed to work on the same topic any further. However, under very specific circumstances, the Vice-Chancellor will grant a candidate to submit the thesis within 90 days after lapse of the period.

7A.

However, on expiry of 7 years and also the grace period of 90 days a candidate may apply for re-registration within one month on the same topic on payment of usual fees on the recommendation of the guide. The application shall be considered by the Research Council which may grant re-registration to be effective under no circumstances beyond 3 years.

8. Independent Research.

- Notwithstanding anything contained above, the Research Council may in special cases, after considering the recommendation of the Ph.D. Committee, may permit any teacher of a University Department or of a College within the territorial jurisdiction of the University with at least 5 (five) years' teaching experience to submit a thesis for the Ph.D. degree prepared independently. The

candidate shall for this purpose submit an application in quadruplicate in prescribed form with an application fee to Academic Registrar which shall be entertained when two members of Faculty/Faculties concerned of this University having adequate experience of guiding Ph.D. research candidates have testified to the satisfaction of the Ph.D. Committee that the candidate is a fit and proper person for independent preparation of a thesis for the Ph.D. Degree. After the proposal for preparation of Ph.D. thesis independently by the candidate has been approved by the Research Council on the recommendation of the Ph.D. Committee, that the candidate is a fit and proper person for independent preparation of a thesis for the Ph.D. Degree. After the proposal for preparation of Ph.D. thesis independently by the candidate has been approved by the Research Council on the recommendation of the Ph.D. Committee, the candidate shall be granted registration on payment of the prescribed registration fee. The date of registration shall be effective from the date of payment of the fee. The candidate shall be eligible to submit the thesis after a lapse of 2 (two) years from the date of registration. Such registration shall be valid for a period of 5 (five) years from the date of registration after which it shall stand cancelled and his/her name shall be struck off from the Ph.D. Registration Register :Provided that other persons holding a Masters Degree of this University with adequate publications to his/her credit and/or specialised training in the subject may also be considered eligible for registration as a Ph.D. candidate in a subject not involving laboratory work.(Candidate submitting thesis independently should also satisfy Clause 1 above).

9. Submission of Thesis.

- The candidate for the Ph.D. Degree shall submit three typed/written/Photostat/Printed copies of his/her thesis as per rules in Annexure I. The thesis should embody the results of research and show evidence of originality in the form of discovery of new facts or by critical analysis of survey of facts, or by establishing relations between facts discovered by others. Five copies of an abstract not exceeding 5 typed pages shall be submitted at least 2 months ahead of the due date. While submitting the thesis, the candidate must produce a certificate from the guide(s) stating that (i) he/she has fulfilled all the requirements under these rules ; and (ii) that the thesis is the result of the candidate's own investigation. In the case of a candidate submitting a thesis independently the above declaration is to be given by the candidate himself. The candidate must also give a declaration that the thesis or part thereof was not submitted by him/her for any research degree to this University or any other University/Institution.

10.

At the time of submission of the thesis every candidate shall pay the prescribed examination fees. Fees once deposited shall not be refused.

11. Evaluation of the Thesis.

- The thesis shall be examined by a Board of Examiners consisting of two external examiners and the guide(s) concerned and 3 examiners when there are no guides. For this purpose, the Ph.D. Committee shall finalise, a panel of at least 7 (seven) names of examiner in the subject excluding the guide(s). From the panel so finalised the Vice-Chancellor shall select the Board of Examiners and the

Controller of Examinations will take necessary steps for evaluation of the thesis including viva-voce Examination. In the case of joint-guide(s), either a combined report or two separate reports, may be obtained.

12.

(a) If the thesis is recommended for the Ph.D. Degree by any two examiners and rejected by the third examiner, then the thesis will be referred to another external examiner from the panel already approved by the Ph.D. Committee a super selection to be made by the Vice-Chancellor. The assessment of this examiner shall be final. (b) In case the thesis is recommended by one of the external examiners and the guide(s) but the other examiner suggested re-submission after revision then the candidate will be allowed to re-submit the thesis after necessary revision in the light of the comments of the examiner within one year, the payment of half the prescribed examination fee and the revised thesis will be sent only to that examiner who suggested revision. The final assessment of this examiner will be considered along with the report of the other examiners already received and will be processed according to sub-clause (a) mentioned above or under Clause 13 below. Explanation. - External examiner shall mean any examiner other than guide(s) not in the University service/not belonging to the institution of the candidate and the guide(s). (c) If the thesis is rejected by any two examiners including guide(s) it shall be rejected. (d) If the thesis is recommended by one of the examiners and recommended for re-submission by another and rejected by the third examiner, the thesis shall be rejected.

13. Viva-voce Examinations.

- After the thesis has been approved by all the examiners, the candidate shall be asked to appear at a viva-voce examination and/or Practical examination to be conducted as per prescribed rules jointly by at least two examiners, one external examiner and the guide(s), if any will ordinarily be one : Provided that if any external examiner and/or the guide(s) are not readily available to conduct the viva-voce examination, the Vice-Chancellor may appoint other examiners for the purpose from the panel. If there are more than one guide, the Vice-Chancellor may appoint any one or both as examiners for the viva-voce examination. The examiner shall submit a combined report.

14. Award of the Doctorate (Ph.D.) Degree.

- If the thesis is recommended for the Ph.D. Degree by all the examiners, including the examiners holding the viva-voce examination, the Controller of Examinations with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor shall submit to the Executive Council a report for consideration an declaration of the result. If the E.C. is satisfied with the report of the Board of Examiners and consider that the candidate is worthy in all respects it shall award the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) and shall cause his/her name to be published with the title of his/her thesis, the Faculty and the subject to which the thesis belongs.

15.

A diploma under the seal of the University and signed by the Vice-Chancellor will be given to each successful candidate at the next convocation for conferring Degrees.

16.

For all other matters not covered above, the decision of the Research Council based on the recommendations of the Ph.D. Committee shall be final and binding. Annexure I

- 1. All type-written copies shall have the standard size of approximately : 25 cm. x 20 cm.**
- 2. A margin of 3 cm. shall be left on the left hand side.**
- 3. The maps and drawing may have their appropriate size as advised by the Guide.**
- 4. All copies must be bound in cloth or rexin with the names of the Degree, the year of submission, the short title of the thesis and the name of candidate embossed/printed on the spine and the front page of the cover.**

Annexure II Rules regarding Compulsory Viva-Voce Examination for Ph.D. Degree

- 1. That all the examiners appointed to evaluate the thesis may be requested to send to the University along with their reports any matter in the form of questions on which the candidate may be interrogated. The questions thus received will be supplied to the examiners conducting the viva-voce examination along with the full text of the reports of all examiners.**
- 2. In the viva-voce examination the examiners may ask question beyond the subject of the thesis in order to satisfy themselves that the candidate has adequate knowledge of the particular branch of studies on which he/she has submitted the thesis.**
- 3. If the examiners are satisfied with the viva-voce and/or practical examination they shall submit a joint report approving of the work of the candidate.**

4. If the candidate fails to satisfy the examiners at the viva-voce and/or practical examinations the University may on the recommendation of the examiners permit him/her to appear at a viva-voce and/or practical examination within six months, the fee on re-appearance shall be half of the prescribed examination fee. A fresh viva-voce and/or practical examination must be conducted by the same examiners unless their services were not available and in such a case, the Vice-Chancellor may appoint examiners for the purpose.

5. That in consultation with the Head of the University Department concerned, the viva-voce and/or practical examination be held in the presence of concerned research scholars, students interested in the subject and members of the teaching staff of the Department concerned.