

A PROFILE OF RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAMME

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RESEARCH CELL

VARDHAMAN MAHAVEER OPEN UNIVERSITY

RAWATBHATA ROAD,

KOTA (RAJ.) – 324021

Ordinance on Research Degree Programme
Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degree, Regulation 2009

1. ADMINISTRATION

1.0 The Degree of Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) and the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D.) or such other degree may be awarded by the University to a registered student on his/her successfully completing the prescribed programme of research offered by the University in different subjects/disciplines existing in the faculties of Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, Sciences (including Life Sciences), Law, Commerce, Management, Technical and Continuing Education and Education in other faculties created from time to time under the statutes of V. M. Open University, Kota.

Research studies leading to the award of the Degree of Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) or Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree or such other degree shall be organized and managed by the following bodies in accordance with their respective roles as specified hereunder.

1.1 Academic Council :

The Research Degree Programme of the University shall be offered in accordance with the Research Policy adopted by the Academic Council subject to the provision of the Act and the Statutes of V. M. Open University, Kota.

1.2 Research Board :-

There shall be Research Board which subject to the overall guidance and supervision of the Academic Council, shall be responsible for the planning management, organization and monitoring of Research programme.

1.2.1 Subject to the provision of the Act and Statues, the Board shall perform the following functions :

- (i) Management and Administration of the research policy and programme of the University.
- (ii) Formulation of guidelines for registration, supervision, programme design, evaluation and awards of research degree including appointment of supervision and examiners, award of scholarships/fellowships and approval of research topics.
- (iii) Monitoring of research indicators as deemed fit for such evaluation.
- (iv) Determination of the criteria for review of the research areas/themes/topics relevant to the concerned subjects.
- (v) Recommend a person to award the Ph. D. degree on the basis of outstanding published research work.
- (vi) Advice on research priorities and allocation of resources for research.
- (vii) Delegation of any of these functions assigned to the subject unit concerned.

(viii) Preparation of the consolidated reports on research efforts of the university.

(ix) Any other work related to research development and co-ordination.

1.2.2 The term of office of the nominated members will be of two years from the date of nomination. A member can be re-nominated for another term.

1.2.3 The Research Board shall meet at least twice in a year and shall report to the Academic Council. One third of the total membership shall form the quorum for the meeting.

1.2.4 The Vice-Chancellor shall exercise the executive authority on behalf of the Research Board.

2. REGISTRATION

2.1 The process and schedule of registration shall be prepared and announced by the University in accordance with the guidelines given by the Research Board from time to time. Secretariat of the Research Board shall be responsible for overall co-ordination of the programme leading to the award of Ph. D. degree. The research degree programme will be offered by the University in the existing school of the subject concerned.

2.2 A candidate will be eligible for admission and registration for M.Phil./Ph.D. programme provided he/she has :

(i) Qualified for the award of the Master's Degree of any University/Institute or any other qualification recognized as equivalent thereto in relevant fields of study will be eligible to register for the Ph. D. degree programme provided he/she secured at least 55% marks (50% in case of SC/ST candidates or a grade equivalent thereto at an examination leading to such a degree).

- (ii) An entrance examination will be conducted by the University on the pattern of University Grants Commission for M.Phil. and Ph.D. separately. The candidates who have passed UGC/CSIR/JRF Examination, NET SLET, GATE, Teacher fellowship holder or M.Phil. will be given the weightage of marks in final merit who have qualified the Entrance Exam.
- (iii) The passed out students in M.Phil./Ph.D. Entrance test will be interviewed by the University Research Board and at the time of interview, Doctoral candidates are required to discuss their research topic in detail.
- (iv) The University will admit only the pre-determined number of students in M.Phil./Ph.D. programme.
- (v) While granting admission to the students to M.Phil./Ph.D. programmes the School/Department University will implement the State Reservation Policy.
- (vi) Course Work

After having been admitted to M.Phil./Ph.D. student shall be required to undertake course work on Research Methodology for six months.

(a) Qualitative methods, other methodology.

(b) Computer application

(c) Review to Published Research in the relevant field.

(d) The mode of exam regarding course work would be decided by the R&D.

2.2.1 The registration process shall be initiated when the application for registration is accompanied by a research proposal/synopsis duly approved by the supervisor. The

proposal shall among other things enlist the objectives of the proposed study, methodology to be pursued by the student and also the chapter scheme, review of literature and bibliography.

2.2.2 The enrolment to the Research Degree Programme shall be processed twice during the year i.e. during the month of January and July every year.

2.3 All those who are offered fellowships by the university or any other agency and registered with the university to pursue a research degree programme of the university on a full-time basis shall belong to the category of full-time students. In exceptional cases, the Research Board, on the recommendation of the subject/discipline concerned, may allow registration of full-time students who do not have fellowship.

2.4 The registration for Ph. D. degree programme shall initially be made provisionally and the same shall be confirmed according to the procedures prescribed by the Research Board from time to time.

2.5 Interdisciplinary research will be encouraged by the University. The department of the subject concerned shall be responsible for deciding the thrust areas of research. Permission to supplicate for the research degree in a different faculty subject may be granted by the Research Board on the basis of interdisciplinary approach of the case duly justified by the candidate and supervisor(s).

2.6 The minimum period required for submitting the doctoral thesis will be two and a half years from the date of registration in the research programme. The researcher may maximally take upto five years to accomplish his/her doctoral research work. The thesis on submission would be sent to two external examiners and the supervision for evaluation.

The student would also have to appear for a viva-voce examination compulsorily which will be jointly held by the supervisor and one of the examiners approved by the Vice-Chancellor. Members of the faculty of different schools/discipline of the university would be invited to be present at the time of the viva-voce examination.

2.7 Ph.D. candidates shall publish One Research paper in refereed Journal before submission of thesis and produce evidence for the same in the form of acceptance letter or reprint.

2.8 The research candidate will have to give two seminars with a gap of six months in the Department of which one shall be prior to submission of the thesis.

2.9 A candidate who has offered registration for the research programme shall deposit the prescribed registration fee initially and will deposit one year tuition fee in advance on receipt of registration letter and every year annual tuition fee shall be deposited in advance. Library Caution money and library fee and laboratory fee (if applicable) will be deposited at the time of Registration.

- 2.10 The registration of a student may be cancelled for any of the following reason :
1. Non-payment of fees
 2. Unsatisfactory progress
 3. Non-compliance with the provision of the ordinance on research
 4. Failure to submit the thesis within the time limit prescribed.
- 2.11 The Research Board may consider requests for re-registration from students whose registration is cancelled. An application for re-registration, if made within a period not exceeding one year from the cancellation of the registration. The application will be considered only on the recommendation of the supervisor(s). He/She has to deposit re-registration fee.
- 2.12 The programme fees shall include registration fee, tuition fee, evaluation fee and any other fee prescribed by the university from time to time, and shall always be charged on annual basis. All students re-registered shall pay full fees on re-registration.
- 2.13 The thesis submitted to the University shall be evaluated by two experts out of which at least one shall be out of the state. On receipt of satisfactory reports M.Phil./Ph.D. students shall undergo a viva-voce examination which shall be openly defended.

FEE SCHEDULE

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| 1. Payable at the time of Admission | : (In Rs.) |
| (i) Application form fee | : 100/- |
| (ii) Registration fee | : 200/- |
| (iii) Library caution money (refundable) | : 500/- |
| (iv) Library fee (Non refundable for those
Who want to become member of Library) | : 1000/- |
| (v) Research/Tuition fee
(@ Rs. 250/- per month) | : 3000/- |
| (vi) Laboratory fee for research
(Only scholars using laboratory facilities
including computer) | : 1500/- |
| 2. Payable at the time of submitting the thesis : | |
| (i) Ph. D. thesis evaluation fee | : 2000/ |
| 3. Contingent fee : | |
| (i) Arrangement of second Viva-voce examination | : 2000/- |
| (ii) Resubmission of thesis | : 2000/- |

Notes :

- (i) All types of fees are payable to the university at the headquarter, Kota
- (ii) Every registered candidate will be required to pay a research/tuition fee for carrying out his/her research in the university from time to time and notified accordingly. Teachers working in this university will not be required to pay the tuition fee. However, other applicable fee like the registration fee, laboratory fee, examination fee etc. will have to be paid by them.

3. SUPERVISION

- 3.1 Every student registered for the research degree programme shall be required to pursue the programme under a supervisor from the university.
- 3.2 The Joint Supervisor of the same or other subject of an inter-disciplinary nature is permissible provided the reason for joint supervision is justified and reasons are given for it.
- 3.3 All Professors and Associate Professor of Vardhaman Mahaveer Open University, Kota will be ipsofacto Research Supervisor provided they possess Doctorate degree of a recognized university.
- 3.3.1 The Research Board shall also have powers to approve any Assistant Professor/Lecturer working in Vardhaman Mahaveer Open University, Kota to become research supervisor of this universality provided he has Ph.D. degree and four years P. G. or ten years U. G. teaching experience.
- 3.3.2 In case of encouraging interdisciplinary research where-ever necessary (both in the subjects the university is running and also in the related subjects) co-guides (Joint Supervisor) may be chosen from external experts. The external experts may act as co-guide for Ph. D. work subject to decision of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor on specific cases. The decision regarding co-guideship of an expert will be restricted to the case of particular Ph. D. work.

- 3.3.3 Directors, Regional Director and Dy. Directors working in the different units (other than Academic Wing) of Vardhaman Mahaveer Open University, Kota will also be treated as guide as per the norms already existing in the University and on recommendation by the Research Board. The Director's, Regional Director's, and Dy. Director's eligibility for guiding Ph. D. work will be considered only in the case of subject area of the person concerned.
- 3.3.4 The retired teachers of VMOU shall continue to be Research Supervisor of the University and will be eligible for fresh registrations.
- 3.4 No person shall be permitted to be supervisor and evaluate the research work of his/her close relations. The term close relation includes wife/husband/son/daughter/grand-son/grand-daughter/brother/sister/ nephew/niece/grand-niece/uncle/aunt/first cousin/son-in-law/daughter-in-law.
- 3.5 Any recognized approved supervisor who fails to publish any research paper in a standard national/international journal in two consecutive calendar years will not be eligible to be supervisor of any new candidate.
- 3.6 A supervisor will be allotted only two research scholars in a Calendar year and the maximum number of students of Ph. D. and M. Phil. Programmes which a supervisor can guide at a time shall be as hereunder :

(a) University Professor : 8 candidates + 5 M.Phil. Candidates

(b) Associate Professor : 8 candidates + 5 M.Phil. Candidates

(c) Assistant Professor : 5 candidates + 5 M.Phil. Candidates

3.7 A candidate ordinarily shall not be permitted to change the scheme of research and supervisor during the course of the study. In exceptional cases on recommendation of the supervisor with due justification the Vice-Chancellor/Research Board may permit modification of the subject or change of the supervisor.

3.8 In case the supervisor retires or leave the university the candidate shall be permitted to work with him/her if he/she has completed six months of research work after registration. In the event of eventuality/death of the supervisor the candidate on his/her request would be allotted another supervisor by the Research Board and the period of his research work shall be counted for the purpose of the award of the Ph. D. degree.

4. SUBMISSION OF PH. D. THESIS :

4.1 For Ph. D. degree, a student shall be required to submit a thesis in the format as may be prescribed by the discipline and Research Board after getting “NO DUES CERTIFICATE” from the concerned units of the university.

4.2 No thesis shall normally exceed eighty thousand words (excluding footnotes and bibliography).

- i. It may be a piece of research work duly characterized either by the discovery of new facts or by a fresh interpretation of facts or theories.
 - ii. In either case it should reflect the candidate capacity for critical examination and judgement.
 - iii. It should also be satisfactory as far as its literary presentation is concerned.

However, in case a thesis exceeds this limit the candidate shall be required to obtain special permission of the Research Board. The candidate shall indicate summarily in approximately 2000 words how far the thesis embodies the results for his/her investigations. This summary shall be submitted in four copies with a C.D. alongwith the thesis and this shall also be sent to the examiners alongwith the Ph. D. thesis. The candidate shall submit his/her thesis in four copies with two C.D.

4.3 **COLOUR SCHEME FOR THESIS COVER IN DIFFERENT FACULTIES :**

S.No.	Faculty/School/Discipline	Colour
1.	Social Sciences/Humanities/Indian Tradition/Culture	Red
2.	Commerce-Management/Hotel Management	Yellow

3. Education, Journalism, Law, Library & Information Science Crimson
4. Science/Technology/Life Sciences Light Blue

i. EVALUATION AND AWARDS

- 5.1 After the receipt of the thesis, along with necessary certificates and the requisite fee by the office of the Director (Research) the supervisor shall submit a panel of 10 experts (Four from the Rajasthan state and six from out of state) who are entitled to be research supervisors of the University, preferably Professors, for appointment as examiners and certify that they have been active in the related field. The Vice-Chancellor shall ordinarily appoint two external examiners for Ph. D., thesis from the panel to whom the thesis shall be sent for evaluation. In special case the Vice-Chancellor may request the supervisor to cite some publications by the suggested examiners in the area of the research. The panel of examiners may be re-submitted on the directives of Vice-Chancellor. The supervisor will also be an examiner of the thesis.
- 5.2 The following provisions will be applicable for evaluation of Ph. D. thesis.
 - 5.2.1 In case all the three examiners do not unanimously recommend the award of the degree, copies of their reports will be sent to the supervisor for his/her comment(s) and the case will be considered by the Vice-Chancellor after receipt of comments.

- 5.2.2 In case two or all examiners disapprove the thesis it shall be rejected.
- 5.2.3 In case one of the examiners approve the thesis and other recommends a revision and the third rejects it, the candidate shall be called upon to submit the thesis after revision in the light of the observations of the examiners.
- 5.2.4 In case all the three original examiners including the supervisor also approve the thesis, the candidate shall be called upon to appear for a viva-voce examination which will be open to all interested persons and shall be conducted by the Board of Examiners consisting Supervisor and one of the original external examiners of the thesis selected by the Vice-Chancellor. If both the viva-voce examiners (Supervisor and external) are satisfied the case shall be forwarded by Director (Research) to the Vice-Chancellor for his approval of the Viva-Voce recommendation and the award of a provisional certificate of Ph. D. Degree to the candidate.
- 5.2.5 In case the recommendations of the Viva-Voce examiners differ from that of the thesis examiners or there is a difference of opinion between the Viva-Voce examiners, the candidate may be asked to reappear at a second Viva-Voce examination within six months. If the candidate fails to satisfy, the thesis will be finally rejected.
- 5.2.6 If the examiners recommend that the candidate be asked to revise/improve his/her, thesis the Vice-Chancellor may

permit the candidate to resubmit his/her thesis on the recommendation of the supervisor.

5.2.7 In case a candidate is allowed to resubmit his/her thesis he/she will have to pay a fresh submission fee at the time of re-submitting his/her thesis.

5.2.8 The Vice-Chancellor shall refer the approved thesis for collective statement before taking a final decision about its publication.

5.2.9 The candidate shall not publish the thesis without seeking a formal permission to this effect from the university.

5.3 The expert(s) will be paid TA/DA as per the University rules. For the remuneration for evaluation of synopsis, thesis and conduct of viva-voce the following rates will be applicable to be paid to the individual examiner.

Besides above remuneration the actual postal charges will be reimbursed. Necessary deductions will be made as per rules of the University.