

VARDHMAN MAHAVEER OPEN UNIVERSITY

Rawatbhata Road, Kota (Rajasthan) PIN: 324 021

Toll Free- 1800-180-6166

Ph.D Entrance Examination Guidelines

2020





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Online applications are invited for admission to Ph.D. Programme in the School of Science & Technology, Commerce & Management, Humanities & Social Sciences, Continuing Education and Education in regular mode for July 2020. Admission to the Ph.D. programme will be made through Research Entrance Test (RET) and interviews as per Ph.D. Regulations of the University based on U.G.C. Regulations guideline 2016 & 2018 and from Chancellor's Secretariat Rajasthan. Students can pay Pre-Ph.D. **Entrance Fee via online mode (Credit Card /Net Banking/ E-Mitra.)** Candidates needn't to send any printed version of their form/documents. Successful candidates will undergo Pre-Ph.D. Course Work of 06 months to be held at VMOU, Kota Campus. 75% attendance is mandatory during the Ph.D. Course Work.

Important dates for Ph.D. Entrance Written Examination:

Online Application beginning Date	February 24, 2020
Online Application Last Date	March 31, 2020
Date of Written Examination (Tentative)	April 19, 2020 (11.00AM to 1.00 PM)

Important Guidelines

A. Eligibility:-

1. Candidates for admission to the Ph.D. programme shall have a Master's degree or a professional degree declared equivalent to the Master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 7-point scale (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) or an equivalent degree 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 for the purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions.
2. A relaxation of 5% of marks, from 55% to 50%, or an equivalent relaxation of grade, may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST and OBC (non-creamy

layer)/Differently-Abled and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time, or for those who had obtained their Master's degree prior to 19th September, 1991. The eligibility marks of 55% (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) and the relaxation of 5% to the categories mentioned above are permissible based only on the qualifying marks without including the grace mark procedures.

3. Adhere to the State-level reservation policy, as applicable.

(B) Entrance Examination Fee & Mode of Payment:

Candidates have to pay an amount of Rs. 2000/- (Two thousand only) as Pre-Ph.D. Entrance test fee. The candidates can pay Pre-Ph.D. Entrance test fee **via online mode (Credit Card/Net Banking/E-Mitra.) Fee once deposited will not be refundable.**

(C) Entrance Test:

An Entrance Test shall be qualifying with qualifying marks as 50%. The syllabus of the Entrance Test shall consist of 50% of Research methodology (Research, Language, Computer application & logical reasoning) and 50% shall be subject specific. Time allotted for Ph.D. Entrance Written Test will be TWO Hours. The successful candidate(s) in the Ph.D. Entrance test shall be interviewed. An interview/viva-voce (30 Marks) will be organized when the candidates are required to discuss their research interest/area through a power point presentation in the proposed research area. The merit shall be prepared for final admission on the basis of written test and interview both. If Interview Committee feels that candidate's research competence is not up to the mark, then seat may be declared as Not Found Suitable (NFS).

1. The interview/*viva voce* shall also consider the following aspects, viz. whether:
 - (I) the candidate possesses the competence for the proposed research;
 - (II) the research work can be suitably undertaken at the Institution/College;
 - (III) the proposed area of research can contribute to new/additional knowledge.
2. Preference of candidate for supervisor shall be considered. However, the decision of the university shall be final.
3. All admission shall be final subjected to the approval of Research Board.

(D) Reservation: Subject-wise while allotting Supervisor against vacancies as per the Rajasthan Government rules.

(E) Available Seats for Ph.D.: The Subject wise numbers of seats are as follows:

Name of School	Subject for Entrance Test	No. of tentative vacancies
Continuing Education	Journalism	02
Commerce & Management	Commerce	01
Humanities and Social Sciences	English	02
	Political Science	02
	Public Administration	02
	Geography	01
	Sanskrit	02
Education	Education	05
Total		17*

**The University reserves the right to increase & decrease in the no. of seats in any of the subject.*

(F) Course Work:

- All candidates admitted to the Ph.D. shall be required to complete the course work prescribed by the Research Department during the initial one or two semesters.
- The candidate(s) shall undertake the course work of 16 Credits which consists of:

(i)	Research Methodology and Computer Application	}	Module-I	08
	Review of Literature/Recent Trends (published research work in relevant field)		Module-II	Credits
(ii)	Level Advance Subject knowledge		Module-III	08 Credits

- Students will undergo common course work for 8 credits and subject based course work for 8 credits (in the department concerned on the basis of recommendation of Research Advisory Committee).
- After six months the candidate(s) shall be examined through Continuous Assessment.
- 75% attendance of the student in the Pre-Ph.D. Course Work both in Module 1&2 and Module three will be compulsory.
- Successful candidate(s) then shall submit a synopsis and also make a presentation before the Research Board.
- In case the candidate(s) does not clear course work examination, he/she shall be eligible to take such an examination along with the candidate(s) of the immediately next batch whenever conducted by the University. No further chance will be given.

8. Grades in the course work, including research methodology courses shall be finalized after a combined assessment by the Research Advisory Committee and the Department and the final grades shall be communicated to the Examination Department through Research Department.
9. A Pre-Ph.D. course work scholar has to obtain a minimum of 55% of marks or its equivalent grade in the UGC 7-point scale (or an equivalent grade/CGPA in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) in the course work (separately in both Continuous Assessment (CA) and Term-End-Examination) in order to be eligible to continue in the programme and submit the thesis.
10. The registration of a student may be cancelled due to any of the following reasons:
 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 prescribed time limit. 5. Any act of indiscipline by the candidate.
11. No re-registration is allowed.

(G) General Instructions for Ph.D. Entrance Test

- (1) No candidates shall be exempted from the Research Entrance Test irrespective of their having qualified UGC/CSIR NET (JRF) etc.
- (2) The Ph.D. Entrance Test will be held at **Kota** only.
- (3) Time allotted for Ph.D. Entrance Written Test: Total 02 Hrs.
- (4) Admit card to be downloaded from the University website: www.vmou.ac.in, available about a week before the date of written Examination. Candidates should bring with them a valid original ID.
- (5) An Entrance Test shall be qualifying with qualifying marks as 50%. The syllabus of the Entrance Test shall consist of 50% of Research methodology (Research, Language, Computer applications & Logical reasoning) and 50% shall be subject specific. The Entrance Test shall be conducted at **Kota** only.
- (6) Question paper will be bilingual (Hindi and English) except the language paper.
- (7) There will be **NO** Negative Marking in the written examination.
- (8) The aggregate qualifying marks in written examination for all candidates will be 50%.
- (9) In case of tie between successful candidates in any subject in the final merit, it will be resolved by comparing the P.G. marks. If the tie is not resolved then further the marks obtained by the candidates in U.G. will be compared to determine the final merit.
- (10) The University shall admit only pre-determined number of students in the Ph. D.

(11) All those who are offered fellowships by the University or any other agency 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. The Research Board, on the recommendation of the Research Advisory Committee may allow registration of full-time/part time students who do not have fellowship. Candidates for full time research programme shall preferably be permitted having sponsorship / assistantship / fellowship/ any financial support from university/state or national level agency, etc., however, candidates without any financial support as above, shall not be disqualified to take admission to full time Ph.D programme.

(12) In addition to the educational qualifications the applicant shall prove the following to the satisfaction of Research Advisory Committee (RAC)

- a. Permission of the employer in writing to the candidate, to pursue Ph.D programme along with his/her regular duties in the organization he/ she is employed.
- b. Availability of all facilities for pursuing research at the candidate's parent organization / place of work, in the chosen field of research.
- c. Certificate issued by the employer to allow him/her to fulfill the residential requirement during course work (180 days leave for attending the class of course work) and contact days (as required by the university) with supervisor after completion of the course work as notified by University from time to time.

(13) The Date of registration shall be the Date of admission (Fee Deposition)

(14) All the information relating written examination, result, interview, course work etc. shall be uploaded on University website. Candidates should frequently visit the website for updated information.

(H) Fee Distribution:

1.	Tuition Fee	Rs. 25,000/- per year
2.	Registration Fee	Rs. 5,000/-
3.	Library Caution Money	Rs. 1,000/-
4.	Library Fee	Rs. 3,000/-
5.	Laboratory fee for Research	Rs. 3,000/-
6.	Thesis Submission & Evaluation Fee	Rs. 10,000/-

Syllabus of the Entrance Test :**Total-100 Marks****(A) Research Methodology****(50 Marks)****(i) Syllabus for the Research based Paper.****(20 Marks)**

- **Foundations of Research:** Meaning, Objectives, Motivation, Utility. Meaning, purpose, significance of ethical conduct in research, Classification of Research based on its purpose (Basic, Applied, Evaluation and Action Research) Concept of theory, empiricism, deductive and inductive theory. Characteristics of scientific method –Understanding the language of research –Concept, Construct, Definition, Variable. Research Process
- **Problem Identification & Formulation** – Research Question–Investigation Question– Measurement Issues –Hypothesis –Qualities of a good Hypothesis –Null Hypothesis & Alternative Hypothesis. Hypothesis Testing –Logic & Importance
- **Research Design:** Concept and Importance in Research –Features of a good research design –Exploratory Research Design –concept, types and uses, Descriptive Research Designs – concept, types and uses. Experimental Design: Concept of Independent & Dependent variables.
- **Qualitative & Quantitative Research:** Qualitative research – Quantitative research – Concept of measurement, causality, generalization, and replication. Merging the two approaches.
- **Measurement:** Concept of measurement–what is measured? Problems in measurement in research–Validity & Reliability. Levels of measurement–Nominal, Ordinal, Interval, Ratio.
- **Research Strategies:** Which Strategy to Choose? Case Studies, Experiments, Ethnography, Phenomenology ,Ground Theory (GT), Action Research , Mixed- methods
- **Sampling:** Concepts of Statistical Population, Sample, Sampling Frame, Sampling Error, Sample Size, Non Response. Characteristics of a good sample.Probability Sample –Simple Random Sample, Systematic Sample, Stratified Random Sample & Multi-stage sampling. Determining size of the sample –Practical considerations in sampling and sample size.
- **Ethical considerations in Research** –Layout of a Research Paper, Impact factor of Journals, When and where to publish ? Ethical issues related to publishing and research, Plagiarism and Self-Plagiarism, Application of computer in research.

(ii) Language in Research (English & Hindi).**(10 Marks)****(iii)** Computer Applications in Research.**(10 Marks)****(iv)** Logical Reasoning.**(10 Marks)****(B)** The syllabus of subject specific paper will be as per the syllabus of UGC NET. The link is given below-**(50 Marks)**

<https://www.ugcnetonline.in/syllabus-new.php>