

VARDHMAN MAHAVEER OPEN UNIVERSITY, KOTA

Rawatbhata Road, Kota (Rajasthan) PIN: 324 021

Toll Free- 1800-180-6166

Ph.D Entrance Guidelines

2023





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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 Session 2023.

Important dates for Ph.D. Entrance Written Examination:

Online Application beginning Date	16th January, 2023
Online Application Last Date	31st January, 2023
Date of Verification	

Important Guidelines

Procedure for Admission

Admission in PhD will be notified in advance on the institutional website and through advertisement in at least two national newspapers, of which at least one shall be in regional newspaper, the number of seats for admission, subject/discipline-wise distribution of available seats, criteria for admission, procedure for admission etc.along with all other relevant information.

(A) Eligibility Criteria

A candidate shall be eligible for admission and pre-registration course work for Ph. D.programme provided he/she has:

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/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.

(B) Admission Procedure:-

(1) The admission shall be based on the criteria notified by the institution, keeping in view the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by the UGC and other statutory/regulatory bodies concerned, and taking into account the reservation policy of the Central/State Government from time to time.

(2) Admission to the Ph.D. programme shall be made using the following methods:

i. The University shall admit students who qualify for fellowship/scholarship in UGC-NET/UGC- CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests based on an interview. The merit (Qualifying Criteria) as given below.

And/or

ii. The University may admit students through an Entrance Test.

Firstly, in the Subjects in which NET/SLET/JRF is not conducted by UGC. Secondly, if sufficient number of applicants are not received under category (i) then Entrance test shall be conducted for the subject(s) concerned. The Ph.D. Entrance Test will have 70% weightage for entrance test marks and 30% for interview. The

Entrance Test syllabus shall consist of 50% of research

methodology and 50% shall be subject- specific.

iii. The university shall decide the number of eligible students to be called for an interview based on the number of Ph.D. seats available.

iv. Students who have secured 50 % marks in the entrance test are eligible to be called for the interview.

v. A relaxation of 5 % marks will be allowed in the entrance examination for the candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/differently-abled category, Economically Weaker Section (EWS), and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

Qualifying Criteria

In case number of Applications (fellowship/scholarship in UGC-NET/UGC- CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests) received are more than numbers of availablevacancy for doctoral program in a particular the merit of students will be determined on the following basis:

S.No.	Particular	Criteria	Weightage
1.	Interview by the Department Research Committee (Max. 30)	Based on Performance in Domain Knowledge (Max. 15)	To be awarded by the DRC based on Interview (Max. 30)
		Based on Performance in Research Aptitude (Max. 10)	
		Based on General Performance in Interview (5)	
2.	Academics Performance (Max. 70)	Criteria	Weightage
2.(A)	Post Graduate Degree Performance in the Concerned Subject	80% and Above	25
		70% and Above but less than 80%	20
		60% and Above but less than 70%	15
		55% and Above but less than 60%	10
		Less than 55%	0
2.(B)	Graduate Degree Performance	80% and Above	20
		70% and Above but less than 80%	15
		60% and Above but less than 70%	10
		55% and Above but less than 60%	5
		Less than 55%	0
2.(C)	Higher Secondary Board Examination/Senior Secondary Examination Performance	80% and Above	15
		70% and Above but less than 80%	12
		60% and Above but less than 70%	8
		55% and Above but less than 60%	5
		Less than 55%	0
2.(D)	Secondary Examination Performance	80% and Above	10
		70% and Above but less than 80%	7
		60% and Above but less than 70%	5
		55% and Above but less than 60%	3
		Less than 55%	0

(C) Interview

The successful scholarships candidate(s) and entrance test qualified candidate(s) shall be called for interview on the basis of academic merit. The interview Board shall consist of the Research Board Committee and members nominated by the Vice-Chancellor.

An interview/*viva-voce* will be organized where the candidates are required to discuss their research interest/area through a presentation. The merit shall be

prepared for final admission.

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.

(D) 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	03
Commerce & Management	Commerce	- NIL-
Humanities and Social Sciences	English	03
	Political Science	06
	Public Administration	04
	Geography	02
	Sanskrit	01
	Economics	03
Education	Education	02
	Special Education	02
Science and Technology	Botany	04
	Mathematics	04
Total		34

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

(F) Course Work:

1. 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.
2. The candidate(s) shall undertake the course work of 16 Credits which consists of:

(i)	Research Methodology, Publication Ethics and Computer Application	} Module-I	08
(ii)	Level Advance Subject knowledge	Module-III	08 Credits

3. 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).
4. After six months the candidate(s) shall be examined through Continuous Assessment.
5. 75% attendance of the student in the Pre-Ph.D. Course Work both in Module 1&2

and Module III will be compulsory.

6. Successful candidate(s) then shall submit a synopsis and also make a presentation before the Research Board.
7. 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 for those subjects wherein sufficient numbers of candidates do not appear or scholarships are not provided and shall be notified after the completion of first phase of admission.

- (1) The Ph.D. Entrance/verification will be held at **Kota** only.
- (2) Time allotted for Ph.D. Entrance (as and when notified subject wise) Written Test:
Total 02 Hrs.
- (3) 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.
- (4) 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.
- (5) Question paper will be bilingual (Hindi and English) except the language paper.
- (6) There will be **NO** Negative Marking in the written examination.
- (7) The aggregate qualifying marks in written examination for all candidates will be 50%.

- (8) 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.
- (9) The University shall admit only pre-determined number of students in the Ph. D.
- (10) 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.
- (11) 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.
- (12) The Date of registration(Fee Deposition) shall be the Date of admission, but the letter of registration shall be issued after successful completion of Course Work.
- (13) All the information related to entrance schedule, 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
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(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>