

THE NORTH-EASTERN HILL UNIVERSITY ORDINANCES

OC-4

ON THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY PROGRAMME

*Under Section 26 (1) (b) of the NEHU Act, 1973***Admission and Eligibility**

1.
 - i. The admission to the Ph.D. Programme will be done preferably in the beginning of each semester. The candidates with at least 55% marks in their Master's Degree in the subject concerned or allied/cognate subject offered by the Departments/Centres of Studies will be required to appear in a written test and/or an interview to be conducted by the Department/Centres of Studies. The candidate will be selected according to merit determined after giving suitable weightage to the following as defined in the Regulations:-
 - a. Persons with M.Phil. Degree from this University.
 - b. Students securing average 'A' grade or 60% and above in the course work of M.Phil. Programme of this University.
 - c. Percentage in Master's Degree or equivalent (at least 50% weightage)
 - d. Performance in the test and/or performance in the interview.
 - ii. Candidates qualifying in any of the National Level tests recognized by UGC will also be considered for Selection.
 - iii. Subject to availability of seats, candidates belonging to the following categories and possessing a Master's Degree may also be admitted on the recommendation of the Department/Centre of Studies.
 - a. Recognised teachers of NEHU.
 - b. Teachers of colleges affiliated to this University possessing Master's Degree with an experience of at least 3 years of uninterrupted service.
 - c. Persons with M. Phil. Degree from any other recognised University.
 - d. Persons who have completed at least one year of research in a research laboratory / institute.
 - e. Persons having Master's degree in the relevant or allied subject and at least seven years experience of administration, management and specialised knowledge in the proposed field of research to the satisfaction of the University Department/Centre of Studies concerned.

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- f. Persons who have completed at least one year of research in a University/Institution after his registration, provisional or otherwise under the supervision of a teacher who may have since joined the University. SC/ST candidates shall be given 5% Relaxation for eligibility to the Ph. D. programme.
- Course work** **2.** Those Departments/Centres of Studies who wish to have course work in Ph.D. programme may do so. Such courses should be limited between two to four courses. The number of such courses will not vary in one and the same Department/Centre of Studies. Such courses will be formally examined and the grades obtained therein will be reflected in the final result.
- Supervisor** **3.** i. The Department/Centre of Studies shall appoint a supervisor. The supervisor shall be a Professor, Reader or a Lecturer with Ph.D. and with at least three years experience of research/teaching experience and should be a teacher of this University.
- ii. Provided that the Department/Centre of Studies may, with the approval of the School Board, appoint one or two joint supervisors in addition to the Supervisor, in which case the Supervisor shall be in overall charge of the supervision. A joint supervisor need not necessarily be a teacher of the University but should be a person recognised as per the University Regulations.
- Registration** **4.** i. The application for registration of Ph.D. shall be made to the Department/Centre of Studies concerned in the proforma as may be prescribed by the University along with a detailed research proposal including the topic, scope of its study, tentative hypothesis, research methodology including sampling and design, where necessary. The Department/Centre of Studies shall forward the research proposal to the School through the Board of Post-Graduate Studies or the Steering Committee in the case of the Centres of Studies. The date on which the School Board accepts the proposals for registration shall be the date of registration of the scholar for the purpose of this Ordinance. However, the maximum permissible period between the date of admission and the date of registration for Ph.D. programme shall be 18 months.
- ii. In case a candidate wishes to change the topic of research, he should do so within one year from the date of his registration. The modified research proposal should be submitted to the School Board through the Board of Post-Graduate Studies or the Steering Committee in the case of the Centres of Studies for its consideration and approval.

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Duration	5.	i.	No scholar shall be permitted to submit the thesis for the Ph.D. degree, unless he has pursued research at the University for not less than two years from the date on which his candidature has been registered.
		iv.	The name of a scholar shall be removed from the rolls of the University if he fails to submit his thesis within five years of the date of his registration.
			Provided in exceptional circumstances, the School Board on the recommendation of the Department/Centre of Studies may extend the Registration of the candidate for a maximum period of two more years. If the candidate fails to submit his thesis within the extended period his registration shall lapse automatically.
Review of Progress	6.		The Supervisor will regularly monitor the progress of the research work of the candidate. If the Supervisor finds that the progress of the work is not satisfactory, a report to that effect shall be submitted to the School Board through the Department/Centre of Studies for appropriate action.
Pre-Submission Seminar	7.		When the Supervisor is of the opinion that the thesis is in the final stage of completion, the scholar shall be required to give a pre-submission seminar on his research findings, well in advance. This seminar will be given in the presence of a committee of at least three faculty members, of which one will be from outside the Department/Centre of Studies. The candidate may incorporate the recommendations of the Committee in the thesis.
Modification of Title	8.		If there is a need for modification of the title of research the candidate shall submit an application to the School Board through the Board of Post-Graduate Studies or the Steering Committee in the case of the Centre of Studies at least 4 months before the date of submission of the thesis for approval.
Submission of Thesis	9.	i.	A candidate shall submit his thesis for the Ph.D. in which he may incorporate the text of any work which he may have published on the subject. But he shall not submit as his thesis any work for which a Degree has been conferred on him by this or any other University.

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- ii. The thesis shall satisfy that it is a piece of research work characterised either by discovery of new facts or by fresh interpretation of facts or theories. In either case it should evince the candidate's capacity for critical examination, original thinking and judgment. It shall also be satisfactory so far as its literary presentation is concerned.
- iii. The thesis shall include a certificate from the Supervisor and the declaration from the candidate that the thesis incorporates the student's bonafide researches and that these have not been submitted for award of any degree in this or any other University or Institute of learning.
- iv. The application for submission of thesis shall be countersigned by the Head of the concerned Department/Centre of Studies. The Head of the Department/ Centre of Studies will then forward the thesis together with the observations of the Committee for pre-submission seminar to the Controller of Examinations for further necessary action.
- v. In the case of a teacher or researcher in a Research Institute or candidate who is not pursuing research on a full time basis, the thesis shall be accepted only:
 - a. If the candidate has stayed in the University for at least 30 days in each year including vacation and participated in such academic programmes as may be decided by the Department/Centre of Studies and the total period of such stay in the University before submission of the thesis shall not be less than six months.
 - b. On the production of periodical certificates from his Supervisor that the candidate has been in continuous touch with him and has acquainted himself adequately with the latest theories and methods in research in his field of specialisation.

Panel of Examiners

10. A Supervisor shall submit a panel of six names of examiners in the prescribed proforma to the School Board through the Head of the Department/Centre of Studies for approval and submission to the Controller of Examinations. The School Board shall also submit a copy of the panel of examiners to the Chairman of the Academic Council.

Evaluation

11. The thesis submitted by the candidate for the Ph.D. Degree shall be examined by at least three examiners appointed by the Executive Council on the recommendation of the Academic Council. Two of the examiners shall be those who are not the staff of the University, while the third examiner shall be the Supervisor.

Provided that the Supervisor shall not serve as an examiner where a candidate is a wife or husband, son or daughter, brother or sister.

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**Examiner's
Report and
Viva-Voce**

12. i. Each examiner shall, after examining the thesis submitted by the candidate for the award of the Ph.D. Degree, submit a report in a prescribed proforma to the University containing a clear recommendation that in his opinion (a) the thesis is recommended for the award of Ph.D. Degree (b) the thesis should be modified/revised; or (c) the thesis may be rejected. The examiners may, however, recommend a Viva-Voce examination for some clarifications, if necessary.
- ii. If one of the external examiners recommends that a Viva-Voce examination should be held, a Board may be constituted by the Vice-Chancellor for holding the Viva-Voce examination consisting of the Supervisor, who shall also be the Convener and at least one of the external examiners. This examination shall be held within a period of six months of the receipt of the reports from the External examiners. The Convener will submit a report of Viva-Voce examination to the Controller of Examinations.
- iii. In case an examiner suggests some modifications/improvements of the thesis on certain specific lines or points out certain lacunae in the thesis, the candidate should be asked to reply or modify the thesis as suggested and resubmit the thesis to be forwarded to the concerned examiner within a period of one year from the date of intimation of the requirement of modification by the University. If the candidate decides to reply to the points/observations raised by an examiner and if the reply is neither accepted by the examiner nor retrieved by the candidate the matter shall be referred to a Committee of experts to be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor.
- iv. A thesis shall be accepted for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy on the unanimous recommendation of the examiners. If both the external examiners reject the thesis, no degree will be awarded. If there is a difference of opinion between the external examiners it should be referred to a fourth examiner to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor out of the panel already approved by the Academic Council and the Executive Council. The opinion of the 4th Examiner shall be final.

**Re-Submission
of Thesis**

13. i. A candidate whose thesis has been referred back for revision shall re-submit it for the award of the Ph.D Degree within one year of the intimation of the decision of the University.
- ii. A thesis which has been re-submitted shall be examined by the same external examiner(s). In case the examiner(s) is/are unwilling to act as such, another examiner(s) may be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor from the approved panel of examiners.

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Award of Degree

14. Based on the reports of the examiners and the Viva-Voce the School Board shall recommend to the Executive Council through the Academic Council for the award of the degree or otherwise.

Removal of Difficulties

15. Notwithstanding anything contained in the above Ordinance, the Vice-Chancellor may take such measures as may be necessary for removal of difficulties.

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1. Approved vide MHRD's DO No. F.8-15/91-DESK (U) of October 19, 1994.
 2. Amendments approved vide EC. Resolution No. EC:103:99:5:1(i), EC:114:2002:5::1(i), and vide MHRD's DO No. F.8-5/2002-Desk(u) of September 1, 2003.