

1. Short Title and Commencement

- 1.1 These Regulations shall be called “Regulations for Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree Programme, 2022” under NOBLE UNIVERSITY, Junagadh. These Regulations have been framed in accordance with the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022.
- 1.2 The entire Ph.D. programme under various faculties of this university shall be for regular research scholar only. The Noble University does not permit Ph.D. programme through distance learning mode.
- 1.3 These Regulations shall come into force from the date of approval of the Academic Council of the University.

2. Definitions

Unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and expressions shall have the following meanings:

- 2.1 “Academic Council” means the Academic Council of the University.
- 2.2 “Candidate” means any person who satisfies the prescribed eligibility criteria as stated in Regulation 5.0 and who gets registered for the Ph.D. Degree Programme.
- 2.3 “Co-Supervisor” means the recognised supervisor, who supervises the Ph.D. work of a candidate jointly with the Supervisor as stated in Regulation 8.6(2).
- 2.4 “Coursework” means the compulsory study to be undertaken by the candidate as prescribed by these Regulations.
- 2.5 “Degree” means the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.).
- 2.6 “Doctoral Admission Committee” means the Committee constituted by the Director of Research and approved by the Provost for the purpose of admission to Ph.D. Programme.
- 2.7 “Examiners” means the panel of examiners selected by the Director of Research and approved by the Academic Council for adjudicating/ evaluating the Ph.D. thesis.
- 2.8 “Foreign Candidate” means any person who is a foreign national with a valid foreign passport, satisfying the prescribed eligibility criteria as stated in Regulations 5 and who gets registered for the Ph.D. Degree Programme with a valid research visa.
- 2.9 “Research Advisory Committee” means the Committee constituted by the Director of Research for monitoring the progress of the research work.

2.10 “Supervisor” means the recognised Ph.D. guide as stated in Regulation 8.1

2.11 “University” means ‘Noble University’, Junagadh.

3. Ph.D. Degree Programmes

The University shall offer Ph.D. Degree in the following faculties:

3.1 Faculty of Engineering and Technology

It offers Ph.D. Programme in following disciplines:

- Civil
- Computer
- Electrical
- Mechanical

3.2 Faculty of Pharmacy

It offers Ph.D. Programme in following discipline:

- Pharmaceutical Science

3.3 Faculty of Science

It offers Ph.D. Programme in following discipline:

- Chemistry

3.4 Faculty of Commerce and Management

It offers Ph.D. Programme in following discipline:

- Commerce
- Management

3.5 Faculty of Arts and Humanities

It offers Ph.D. Programme in following disciplines:

- English
- Gujarati

3.6 Faculty of Education

It offers Ph.D. Programme in following discipline:

- Education.

University may include other Faculties and disciplines as and when qualified supervisors and infrastructure facilities are available.

4. Composition and Functions of the Doctoral Admission Committee:

4.1 Doctoral Admission Committee shall consist of:

- 4.1.1 Director of Research.
- 4.1.2 Dean of Faculty.
- 4.1.3 VC Nominee.

- 4.1.4 At least one subject expert from constituent institute.
- 4.1.5 External subject expert having enough research exposure in the relevant area, to be recommended by the Dean.
- 4.1.6 Deputy Registrar (Academic) as Coordinator.

4.2 Functions of the Doctoral Admission Committee:

- 4.2.1 To advertise the admission process through the Registrar as per prevailing norms of the UGC and call for applications.
- 4.2.2 To verify the candidates' credentials as per regulations and publish a list of eligible candidates for further process.
- 4.2.3 To conduct Ph.D. entrance examination and publish a list of qualified candidates through the Registrar after entrance examination.
- 4.2.4 To carry out work related to the research presentation before final admission.
- 4.2.5 To recommend and suggest Ph.D. supervisor for the candidate based on expertise.

5. Eligibility for Admission to the Ph.D. Programme:

5.1 Classification of Candidates

The applicants are classified as under;

5.1.1 Full time Research Scholar

Candidate available full time at the University for pursuing his research work and is not employed anywhere.

5.1.2 Inservice Research Scholar

The regular employee of constituent college/institute under NOBLE UNIVERSITY, who can devote time to pursue his research along with his regular work load at the respective college / institute.

5.2 Eligibility Criteria

The following are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme:

5.2.1 Candidates for admission to the Ph.D. programme shall have successfully completed:

- 5.2.1.1 A 1-year / 2-semester Master's degree programme (after 4 year undergraduate degree) with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 10- 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, recognised or authorised by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of educational institutions.

5.2.1.2 A 2-year / 4-semester Master's degree programme, with the same conditions as in sub-clause 5.1.1 above;

5.2.1.3 A candidate seeking admission after a 4-year / 8-semester Bachelor's degree with Research should have a minimum CGPA of 7.5/10.

5.2.2 Candidates who have cleared the M.Phil. course work with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 10-point scale (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) or an equivalent degree from a Foreign 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 to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to the Ph.D. programme.

A person whose M.Phil. dissertation has been evaluated and recommended for award of the degree, may be admitted to the Ph.D. programme in any Institution on a provisional basis even before the viva-voice or final defence.

5.2.3 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, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) 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 before 19th September 1991.

Note: 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, if any.

5.2.4 A relaxation of 0.5 score, i.e. CGPA of 7/10 or an equivalent relaxation of grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC / ST / OBC (non-creamy layer) / Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

5.3 Inservice Research Scholar

5.3.1 The candidate applying under the Inservice research scholar category should possess:

5.3.1.1 Minimum educational qualifications as per the admission eligibility of Full Time Research Scholars mentioned under section 5.2.

5.3.1.2 At least two years of relevant work experience is preferred.

5.3.2 The candidate needs to prove to the satisfaction of the university that his official duties permit him to devote sufficient time to research. Facilities for research are available at the candidate's place of work in the chosen field of research.

5.3.3 The Inservice research scholars must devote sufficient time for the research work in contact with the concerned research supervisor.

6. Duration of the Programme:

- 6.1** Ph.D. programme shall be for a minimum duration of two years excluding course work, and a maximum of six years.
- 6.2** Extension beyond the above limits will be governed by the relevant clauses as stipulated in the Statute / Ordinance of the University, but not beyond two years.
- 6.3** Women candidates and Persons with Disabilities (more than 40% disability) may be allowed a relaxation of two years for a Ph.D. in the maximum duration. In addition, women candidates may be provided Maternity Leave / Child Care Leave for up to 240 days once in the entire duration of Ph.D.
- 6.4** For student exchanges, provided that they contribute significantly to the completion of the thesis, leave of absence may be granted from the second year onwards on the following basis:
- 6.4.1** Research expeditions (less than one month): authorised by the supervisor and head of the department;
- 6.4.2** Research missions (more than one month): proposed by the department and approved by the Research Advisory Committee for working in National / International Research Laboratories or Centres of Excellence; and
- 6.4.3** Exchange programmes: proposed by the department and approved by the Research Advisory Committee for working in the Institutions in India/abroad.

7. Procedure for Admission

7.1 Admission Notification

The Registrar shall initiate the process well in advance on the institutional website and through advertisement in at least two national newspapers of which at least one shall be in the regional language, the number of seats for admission, subject / discipline wise distribution of available seats, criteria for admission, procedure for admission, examination centre(s) where entrance test shall be conducted and all other relevant information for the benefit of the prospective Candidate.

7.2 Eligibility criteria

Eligibility criteria shall be as defined under section 5.2. of this regulation and will be applicable to scrutinize the applications.

7.3 Entrances Examination

The University shall admit candidates by a two-stage process through the National Level Entrance Tests or Equivalent Tests conducted by the University:

7.3.1 Sixty percent of the total vacant seat of the academic year shall be filled from NET/JRF qualified students and the remaining forty percent through the university/common entrance test qualified students on the basis of Interviews conducted by the concerned Institute. However, in case of an unfilled vacancy in either of the category, candidates from another category can be requisitioned to fill up the vacant slots, in the order of merit.

7.3.2 The syllabus of the Entrance Test shall consist of questions that test research / analytical / comprehension / quantitative aptitude. The Entrance Test shall be conducted at the Centre(s) notified in advance (changes of Centres, if any, Shall also be notified well in advance) by the organisation conducting the examination. Qualifying marks in the entrance test will be 50%, provided that a relaxation of 5% of marks (from 50% to 45%) shall be allowed for the candidates belonging to SC / ST / OBC (Non-creamy layers) / Differently-abled category in the entrance examination conducted by the University.

7.4 Interview / Viva-voce Examination

The eligible candidates shall be called for interview / Viva-voce Examination and their documents shall be scrutinised by the admission committee. The candidates shall be required to discuss their research interest/area through a presentation before duly constituted Doctoral Admission Committee.

The interview/Viva-voce shall also consider the following aspects viz, whether:

7.4.1 The Candidate possesses the competence for the proposed research.

7.4.2 The research work can be suitably undertaken at the institution/College;

7.4.3 The research topic is relevant

7.5 Preparation of Merit List

7.5.1 The section of qualified candidates shall be based on interview / Viva-voce for NET/JRF.

7.5.2 The candidates who have qualified the entrance test, the selection shall be evaluated in the ratio of 70 (written test) : 30 (interview).

7.5.3 Merit list for both categories shall be separately prepared and published.

7.6 Registration of the Students

7.6.1 All the admitted students shall be registered provisionally to the Ph.D. programme till the successful completion of their coursework.

7.6.2 The list of all the Ph.D. registered students shall be published on university website on a year- wise basis. The list shall include the name of the registered candidate, topic of his research, name of his supervisor / co-supervisor, date of enrolment /registration.

8. Research Supervisor

8.1 Eligibility of Research Supervisor (Ph.D. Supervisor)

8.1.1 Any regular Professor / Associate professor of the University with at least **five** research publication in peer reviewed or refereed journals after obtaining Ph.D. may be recognised as research supervisor.

8.1.2 Any regular Assistant Professor of the university with a minimum of five years teaching/research experience with a Ph.D. degree and at least **three** research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals may be recognised as Research Supervisor.

Provided that in areas / disciplines where there is no or only a limited number of peer- reviewed or refereed journals, the above condition may be relaxed for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing.

Following aspects may be taken into consideration while recognition of Research Supervisor

Only a full-time regular teacher of the University can act as a Research Supervisor.

- Adjunct faculty are not permitted to be Research Supervisors except being Co-supervisor.
- However, Co-Supervisors from within the same department or other departments of the same institution or sister institutions may be permitted with the approval of the Research Advisory Committee.
- In specific cases of a formal institutional collaboration based on the MoUs, a faculty member may be approved as Research Supervisor/Co-Supervisor for a Ph.D. candidate from the collaborating institution.

8.2 Approval of the Ph.D. Supervisor

Ph.D. supervisor is recognised, subject to the final approval by the Provost of NOBLE UNIVERSITY.

8.3 Applications

Application for Ph.D. Supervisors shall be submitted in a prescribed format to “The Registrar, NOBLE UNIVERSITY”, who then will process the applications as per laid down norms.

8.4 Age limit of the Supervisor

Age limit of Ph.D. supervisor shall be as per guideline of UGC and concerned statutory authority.

8.5 Restriction on number of candidates

8.5.1 A Research Supervisor / Co-supervisor who is a Professor, at any given point of time, can't guide more than Eight (8) Ph.D. scholars at a time.

8.5.2 An Associate Professor as Research Supervisor can guide up to a maximum of six (6) Ph.D. scholars and

8.5.3 An Assistant Professor as Research Supervisor can guide up to a maximum of four (4) Ph.D. scholars.

One additional research scholar can be allotted to each supervisor over and above the allotted number provided the Research Supervisor is implementing a major sponsored research project. Further, each Research Supervisor / Co-Supervisor can guide two international students on a supernumerary basis. At any point of time, the total number of candidates under a research supervisor shall not exceed the number as prescribed above including the candidates under co-supervision.

Note: The Research Supervisor should declare the number of Ph.D. scholars registered with him periodically to the University. He cannot increase the number by using recognition from multiple universities.

8.6 Allocation of research supervisor:

8.6.1 The allocation of Research Supervisor for a selected research scholar shall be decided by the Department concerned depending on the number of scholars per Research Supervisor, the available specialization among the Supervisors and research interests of the scholars as indicated by them at the time of interview/viva voce.

8.6.2 In the case of topics which are inter-disciplinary and where the Department concerned feels that the expertise in the Department has to be supplemented from outside, the Department may appoint a Research Supervisor from the Department itself, who shall be known as the Research Supervisor, and a Co-Supervisor from outside the Department / Faculty / College / University on such terms and conditions as may be specified and agreed upon by the consenting Institutions

8.6.3 In case of relocation of a woman Ph.D. scholar due to marriage or otherwise, the research data shall be allowed to be transferred to the University/College to which the scholar intends to relocate, provided all the other conditions in these regulations are followed in letter and spirit and the research work does not pertain to the project secured by the parent Institution / Supervisor from any funding agency. The scholar shall, however, give due credit to the parent guide and the institution for the part of research already done.

8.6.4 University teachers after superannuation, if they are re-appointed in the parent University as contract or honorary or distinguished or emeritus professor, may continue as Research Supervisors till the age of 70. The university / college, after considering the research track record and fitness of such superannuated teachers to supervise scholars, may decide on his continuation as Research Supervisor without financial commitment.

8.7 The Supervisor's obligations

It is supervisor's responsibilities to ensure at all formalities described in the Ph.D. Regulations and also in the Ordinances are fulfilled.

The supervisor is also expected to guide the Ph.D. scholars in other related issues of teaching skills and career guidance. The supervisor's responsibilities include information and advice to scholars on all aspects related to the Ph.D. programme while focusing on guidance on academic aspects of research activities. This may include regular meetings with a scholar (typically once a week unless restricted due to reasons otherwise). The supervisor should ensure relevant and adequate advice on important aspects such as involvement of additional supervisors where deemed appropriate, whether the proposed Ph.D. project is feasible within the given time frame, whether the project has the potential to lead to new results of significantly high standard of an international level PhD thesis, and whether the scholar has sufficient time to enable him to have a realistic opportunity for submission of thesis. It is envisaged that an ideal Ph.D. programme necessitates a good working relationship between the student and the supervisor from the beginning of the Ph.D. programme and they have reached an agreement on the demands and expectations from each other. The responsibilities of the supervisor include:

- regular contact with the Ph.D. scholars, and discuss to see if the ideas are good for the research project
- guiding the scholar about the choice of relevant courses and conferences related to the field
- advising the scholar for contacting relevant national and international organisations in the area of research
- assisting the scholar on incorporation of knowledge dissemination element in the course of study
- regular review and feedback on the Ph.D. project
- preparation of the final statement from supervisor summarizing the overall Ph.D. programme at the time of Ph.D. thesis submission
- active participation in the assessment and Ph.D. defense,

An overall plan of the mutual demands and expectations during the supervision process which includes expectations of the contours and extent of supervision – should normally be included in the Ph.D. research plan. The tasks of co-supervisors, if any, should also be agreed upon and should normally include academic discussions in decided relevant parts of the research project.

9. Admission

9.1 Provisional Admission

A candidate shall be provisionally admitted / registered to the University for Ph.D. programme by submitting a duly filled prescribed form along with a self-attested Photostat copy of necessary documents as under:

- ✓ School Leaving Certificate or Any document as evidence of Date of Birth
- ✓ Postgraduate degree certificate
- ✓ Fellowship award certificate (if applicable)
- ✓ Sponsorship certificate (if applicable)
- ✓ Recent Publications (of last four years) (if applicable)
- ✓ Experience certificate (if applicable)
- ✓ Six printed copies of the Research proposal in a prescribed format along with a soft copy.
- ✓ Two passport size recent photo graphs.
- ✓ NOC from current employer (if applicable)
- ✓ Consent letter duly signed by the allocated research supervisor.

9.2 Research Advisory Committee (RAC)

9.2.1 Constitution of RAC

The Director of Research with prior approval of Provost of NOBLE UNIVERSITY shall constitute a subject wise RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE for each research scholar, comprising:

- Research Supervisor–Convener
- Dean of concerned faculty
- One expert from the faculty, if available
- At least one external expert related to area of research.

9.2.2 Functions of RAC

9.2.2.1 The RAC shall review the research proposal submitted by the candidate at the time of provisional admission process and shall recommend the acceptance of research proposal. The RAC shall also guide the research scholar to develop the study design and methodology of research and identify the course(s) that he may have to do.

9.2.2.2 The RAC, if required, shall direct a candidate to submit the revised research proposal incorporating the recommendations made by it within a period of ONE month. Once the revised research proposal is accepted, the candidate shall be recommended for provisional registration

9.2.2.3 It shall be mandatory for all the provisionally registered candidates to seek the clearance of proposed research work from the Institutional Ethics Committee and/or Institutional Animal Ethics Committee for confirmation of provisional registration, wherever applicable.

9.2.2.4 Candidate who fails to get clearance from the RAC or / and ethics committee(s) shall not be registered for the Ph.D. degree and his application will stand cancelled and no refund of registration and application fees will be permissible.

9.2.2.5 The candidate who fails to appear before the Institutional Ethics Committee and /or the Institutional Animal Ethics Committee on a stipulated date(s) without prior permission or valid reason, the committee may recommend cancellation of provisional registration granted to the candidate.

9.2.2.6 The RAC shall monitor the research work of the candidate concerned periodically, record his progress of every semester in the prescribed format and send it to the Director of Research. It shall also review the overall research work done before final submission of the thesis by the research scholar.

Any change in the membership of the RAC shall be effected only on approval by the Provost.

9.3 Commencement of Academic Session:

The academic session for the Ph.D. programme shall commence maximum twice in a year, depending upon the completion of admission procedures.

10. Course Work

10.1 Minimum number of the credit requirement for the Ph.D. programme should be at least 12 credits and a maximum of 16 credits.

10.2 The coursework shall be treated as a prerequisite for Ph.D. preparation. A minimum of four credits shall be assigned to one or more courses on Research Methodology which could cover areas such as quantitative methods, qualitative methods, computer applications, research ethics, and review of published research in the relevant field, fieldwork, etc.

10.3 Students who register for Ph.D. directly from four-year undergraduate with research will have to undertake 6-8 credit courses (at Ph.D. level) about relevant skills/research techniques/domain-specific subjects offered by the University.

10.4 All Ph.D., entrants irrespective of discipline, shall be required to take credit-based courses in teaching / education / pedagogy / writing related to their chosen Ph.D. subject during their doctoral training period. Other courses shall be advanced-level courses preparing the students for the Ph.D. degree. Lifelong learners/ accomplished researchers as evinced from their original contributions in terms of patents granted or new relevant knowledge or/and artistic practices desirous to get a research degree, the Research Advisory Committee may provide choices in selecting the courses/ credits that facilitate the entrepreneur in the monetization of IP thus generated. Credits earned for completed course work are transferable from one institution to another institution through the Academic Bank of Credits. All fresh Ph.D. entrants, irrespective of discipline, will be required to take credit-based courses in teaching / education / pedagogy / writing related to their chosen Ph.D. subject during their doctoral training period. Ph.D. scholars may also have 3-4 hours per week of actual teaching experience gathered through teaching

assistantships or other forms of knowledge dissemination that are not repetitive. All dissemination activities including external presentations and posters, popular articles conveying scientific information (or scientific articles) to the general public, production of books, commissioned research and Internal presentations must be approved by the departmental level Research Committee. Teaching for the Department, supervision of fellow students / technical staff and dissemination tasks can also be credited as knowledge dissemination and as a work commitment.

- 10.5** All courses prescribed for Ph.D. course work shall conform with the credit hour instructional requirement and shall specify the content, instructional and assessment methods. They shall be duly approved by the authorised academic bodies.
- 10.6** The Department where the scholar pursues his research shall prescribe the course(s) to him based on the recommendations of the RAC, as stipulated under sub-clause 10.1.
- 10.7** All candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programmes shall be required to complete the course work prescribed by the Department during the initial one or two semesters. In case of pandemic like situation, provision of blended mode should be made available.
- 10.8** Candidates already holding M.Phil. degree and admitted to the Ph.D. programme, or those who have already completed the course work in M.Phil. and have been permitted to proceed to the Ph.D. in an integrated course, may be exempted by the Department from the Ph.D. course work. All other candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be required to complete the Ph.D. coursework prescribed by the Department. Provided that, the candidates sponsored / authorised by the Govt. of India institutions / organisations who work for their Ph.D. degree in a University under an MoU / exchange programme / Govt. of India scheme, etc. may be exempted from Ph.D. course work provided they produce a certificate of completing a course work of equivalent duration/credit from their respective institution/organization.
- 10.9** 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 University.
- 10.10** A Ph.D. scholar has to obtain a minimum of 55% of marks or its equivalent grade in the UGC 10-point scale (or an equivalent Grade/CGPA in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) in the course work in order to be eligible to continue in the programme and submit the thesis.

11. Research Work

11.1 Inter-Disciplinary Research

11.1.1 A candidate registered for a Ph.D. programme shall carry out research work essentially under guidance of his Ph.D. supervisor. A research scholar / supervisor can propose inter-disciplinary research work in other concerned department / institute recognised by

NOBLE UNIVERSITY. However, the work at the said department / institute shall be carried out under the guidance of qualified experts.

11.1.2 The co-supervisor/s may work as co-opted member/s of the RAC for the candidate. Only a full time regular teacher of the University can act as a PhD. Supervisor. The external supervisors are not allowed. However, Co- Supervisor can be allowed in inter-disciplinary areas from other departments of the same institute or from other related institutions with the approval of the DC

11.2 Recognised Institutions for Research Work

Candidate who has registered for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) shall pursue research under the supervision of a Ph.D. supervisor in any one of the following Departments/ Institutions recognised by NOBLE UNIVERSITY namely:

11.2.1 Any department/institute of NOBLE UNIVERSITY;

11.2.2 Post graduate departments of recognised University or college situated within the country having necessary facilities for carrying out research in the branch of study concerned. It is preferred that the department has been offering the recognised post graduate course.

11.2.3 All India Research Institutions, Regional Research Institutions or any other Nonteaching Research Institution having necessary facilities for carrying out research in the branch of study concerned and approved by the University.

11.2.4 Any organization / industry / institution not covered above, but having sufficient infrastructure to carry out required research work shall be granted the recognition for the purpose as per the procedures laid down.

For the purpose of granting recognition to an institution covered above, the request made by concerned research supervisor and the Dean of the faculty may be forwarded to the Academic Council of NOBLE UNIVERSITY, and on its recommendation, the final decision shall be taken by the Provost.

11.3 Review of the Research Work:

11.3.1 A research scholar shall appear before the RAC once in six months to make a presentation of the progress of his work for evaluation and further guidance. The six monthly progress reports shall be submitted by the RAC to the University with a copy to the research scholar.

11.3.2 A research scholar is required to submit the detailed research proposal along with title of the research in the first presentation to RAC after the successful completion of coursework.

11.3.3 The RAC shall review the progress of research and shall advise the candidate with regard to further work. The RAC shall submit its report to the Director of Research.

11.3.4 If a candidate fails to submit two consecutive six monthly progress report or /and fails to appear before RAC for presenting progress of research work on one occasion without valid reason/s communicated in advance to the Research Supervisor, the RAC shall recommend to the Director of Research for cancelling his registration.

11.3.5 In case of unsatisfactory research work by the research scholar, the RAC shall record the reason/s for the same, advise and suggest corrective measures. If the research scholar fails to incorporate these corrective measures, the RAC may recommend to the Provost with substantial reasons through the Director of Research for cancellation of the registration.

11.3.6 At appropriate time during six monthly progress review meeting, RAC shall recommend the research scholar to submit the synopsis, which a research scholar shall submit within six months from recommendation of the RAC.

11.4 Change in topic of Research

11.4.1 If a candidate desires to change the topic of research on substantial grounds, he shall make an application to the Dean of Faculty through the supervisor.

11.4.2 The Faculty Dean shall put the application to RAC which shall consider such application on merit and may recommend change in the topic of research.

11.4.3 Permission for change in the topic of research may be granted by the Provost. No further change shall be permitted thereafter.

11.4.4 The candidate shall be required to comply with all the procedure for registration of the new topic.

However, the duration of research period shall commence from the date of registration of new topic.

11.5 Change of Supervisors and Transfer of Scholars

11.5.1 In case of resignation, relieving, retirement or death of a Ph.D. supervisor, the candidates registered under him shall be re-allocated to other recognised supervisors in the subject/ department, on recommendation of Dean of the faculty with permission of the Provost.

11.5.2 However, in case of resignation, relieving or retirement of a Ph.D. supervisor; the research supervisor shall continue guiding the registered scholar still the availability of other recognised supervisor or the completion of the research work whichever is earlier.

11.5.3 When a supervisor is not available for the period of six months or more due to leave / lien / deputation, RAC shall allocate such student to other eligible supervisor as a co-supervisor, till the supervisor becomes available. In such cases, recommendation of regular supervisor is preferred.

11.5.4 However not withstanding any of the above, change of supervisor by research scholar shall be avoided.

11.6 Cancellation of the Ph.D. Registration

11.6.1 In case of recommendation for cancellation of the registration by the RAC, the candidate shall be intimated by the controller of examination about the grounds on which the registration is being proposed for cancellation. In case of any representation from the candidate, the controller of examinations shall refer the matter through Director of research to the Provost, who may either approve cancellation of registration or refer the matter back to the respective RAC for reconciliation or necessary action as it may deem fit. The decision of the Provost shall be final.

11.6.2 A candidate who fails to submit the completed thesis within the prescribed period or has failed to do so within the notified extended period, if any, the registration of such candidate shall stand lapsed automatically and such candidate shall be discharged from the Ph.D. programme. However, such a candidate may, if he desires so, apply for re-registration for the Ph.D. degree after complying with the procedure prescribed under these regulations.

12. Thesis

12.1 Title of the Thesis

12.1.1 The exact title of the thesis shall be submitted to the RAC at the time of submission of the detailed research proposal.

12.1.2 Any request made for change of title of the thesis after the submission of the research proposal, but within period of three months of registration shall be before the RAC for its consideration.

12.1.3 The change in the title of the thesis shall be allowed only once. Such changes are subject to the recommendations of the RAC. The RAC shall intimate the change in the title, if any, to the Director of Research and the controller of examination.

12.2 Synopsis

12.2.1 After completion of research work, the candidate shall be required to submit the entire research work to his supervisor for approval.

12.2.2 After approval of the research work by the supervisor, the candidate shall submit SIX copies of synopsis as per the prescribed proforma to the Ph.D. coordinator for its approval from RAC.

12.2.3 The candidate shall make a presentation of his research work, contained in a synopsis, before the member of RAC. This presentation shall be open for all faculty members and research scholars in the relevant discipline.

12.2.4 The submitted synopsis shall be modified suitably, if needed, based on the suggestions of the committee. This step shall be considered as preliminary examination prior to the submission of doctoral thesis.

12.2.5 The final approved copy of synopsis after incorporating all changes, if any, suggested by RAC, shall be given to Controller of Examination.

Conditions for submission of Ph.D. synopsis.

As per the prescribed Proforma

- Clearance from Noble University Ethical Committee (NUEC) and / or plagiarism report.
- Clearance from Institutional Animal Ethical Committee (IAEC) registered with Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision on Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA); wherever applicable.
- Any other clearance as required by respective regulatory/statutory authority of various faculties.
- To be submitted to the university within six months from the date of recommendation of submission of synopsis by RAC.

12.3 Submission of Thesis

After the acceptance of synopsis by the university, the candidate shall submit SIX copies of thesis preferably spiral binding, duly signed by the Supervisor, Co-Supervisor(s) if any, Head of the Department, Dean of the Faculty and the Director of Research along with TWO copies (in separate CDs) in computer disc, within THREE months from the final approved version of the synopsis, to the Controller of Examination through the Dean of the faculty in confidential cover.

It shall be mandatory for the candidate to publish at least TWO Research papers from the research work done for the thesis in peer reviewed /indexed journal(s) / High impact factor journals before submission of thesis. The list of peer reviewed/indexed journal(s) / High impact factor journals shall be published on university website.

The title page of the thesis, cover, format, etc., shall strictly conform to the format of presentable by the university and shall carry a declaration by the candidate and certificate duly signed and issued by the supervisor, co-supervisor(s) if any, Head of the Department and Dean of the Faculty.

Supplementary papers to the thesis like printed copies of any contribution to the knowledge of the subject may also be appended in the thesis by the research scholar.

Where a Ph.D. candidate has submitted the synopsis, but is unable to submit the thesis within the time, prescribed extension of time for submission of thesis may be granted by the Provost subject to maximum of ONE year with valid reasons. Research scholar requires to pay term fees as per the rules.

12.4 Reviewers

The RAC shall forward the details of SIX reviewers to the controller of examinations. The reviewers should preferably fulfill the criteria of eligibility of supervisor for appointment as reviewers, who are to be of national / international repute.

The Ph.D. thesis submitted by a research scholar shall be evaluated by his Research Supervisor and at least TWO external examiners, who are not in employment of the Institution/College.

Controller of Examination in consultation with Provost finalise the name of TWO external examiners for the review of the thesis. Controller of Examination may decide to send soft copy version of the thesis for the evaluation if it is suitable to the reviewer.

In order to complete the evaluation work within stipulated time period, a reviewer shall be given maximum 60 days' time for the review of the thesis. If any reviewer is unable to complete / submit the review report within this time period, Controller of Examination may send to another reviewer with permission from the Provost.

For conducting viva-voce examination, at least one reviewer shall be appointed who had evaluated the thesis of the research scholar.

When first panel of SIX Ph.D. external reviewers are unable to accept the reviewership, the Controller of Examination shall seek names for an additional panel of reviewers from the RAC. The additional panel is also unable to accept the reviewership, the Provost shall appoint reviewer(s) as required in consultation with the Head of Department / Dean in the relevant discipline.

12.5 Evaluation of Thesis and Defence Viva-Voce Examination

A copy of thesis shall be sent to reviewers for evaluation.

The reviewers who had evaluated the thesis shall ordinarily report in the prescribed format, along with a detailed report within 60 days from the date of receipt of the thesis to the controller of examination on the merit of the thesis for Ph.D. degrees

- Recommended
- Recommended with minor correction
- Recommended with major correction
- Rejected

In case of thesis rejected by any one of reviewer, on request of research supervisor, thesis may be sent to another reviewer from the panel on approval of the Provost.

A candidate, whose thesis has not been recommended, shall be permitted to resubmit the corrected / modified thesis as suggested by the reviewers within a period of one year to the controller of the examination. In such cases, the candidate will automatically be considered for an extension for Ph.D. programme.

No candidate shall be permitted to submit the thesis or take the defence viva-voce examination for Ph.D. degree for more than THREE attempts

When the thesis is approved, the candidate shall be ready himself for a defence viva-voce examination, to be conducted before the examination panel. The examination panel shall consist of candidate's research supervisor, at least one external examiner and Faculty Dean.

The viva-voce examination will relate only to the research area / thesis. Such public viva-voce examination will be conducted only in the NOBLE UNIVERSITY premises, and it shall be open for all.

If none of the reviewers who evaluated the thesis is available, another reviewer from the panel may be appointed by the Provost. A candidate, who is successful in the viva-voce examination, shall be declared to have qualified for the Ph.D. degree with effect from the date of the publication of notification.

A candidate, who is not successful in the defence viva-voce examination, shall be permitted to appear for the viva-voce examination second time within a period of three months.

13. Miscellaneous:

13.1 Publication of the Thesis:

The thesis, only on approval, shall be published in full as a book with the permission of the RAC. However, the candidate during the course of his research shall have to publish or must receive the acceptance forgetting published at least TWO papers in indexed journal/s. In such instances, the candidate shall append the reprint copies of published papers or the acceptance letter in the copies of Ph.D. thesis submitted to the university by him. Code of ethics for research such as plagiarism issues, honesty & integrity while conducting research shall be strictly practised by the research scholar

13.2 Award of Degree:

On completion of the evaluation process, the successful candidate shall submit the FOUR hard copies of the thesis, upon receipt of which candidate shall be awarded the degree of 'Doctor of Philosophy' mentioning the faculty, the subject in which he was enrolled. The NOBLE UNIVERSITY shall also issue a provisional certificate certifying that the degree of Ph.D. has been awarded in accordance with the provisions of the University Grants Commission (UGC) regulations for Ph.D.

13.3 Depository With UGC:

Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and before the announcement of the award of the Ph.D. degree(s), the NOBLE UNIVERSITY shall submit an electronic copy of the Ph.D. thesis to the INFLIBNET, for hosting the same so as to make it accessible to all Institutions / Colleges.

13.4 Decision By the Provost:

In all other matters not specifically covered under these regulations, the Provost may take a decision having regard to the circumstances of the case and if he deems necessary, he may refer the matter to the academic council, for suitable recommendations before taking such decision.

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