

# **BHARATH UNIVERSITY**

Chennai 600 073

## **DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Ph.D.) PROGRAMME**

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

#### **1. ELIGIBILITY**

A candidate (Indian / foreigner) who possesses a PG degree recognized by the respective statutory bodies for pursuing research is eligible for admission.

#### **2. CATEGORIES OF Ph.D. CANDIDATES**

There shall be two categories of Ph.D. candidates: (i) Part-time teacher candidates and (ii) Part-time non-teacher candidates.

##### **2.1. Part-time teacher candidates**

The eligible candidates are those working as teachers or librarians in academic institutions like universities, colleges, research institutes and schools.

##### **2.2. Part-time non-teacher candidates**

The eligible candidates are those working or retired as staff in departments of state /central government, public / private /NGO sector or retired teachers or librarians in academic institutions like universities, colleges, research institutes and schools.

#### **3. ADMISSION PROCEDURE**

(i) There shall be 4 sessions every year for Ph.D. registration, viz. January Session, April Session, July Session and October Session.

(ii) The candidates desirous of pursuing Ph. D. degree shall submit the application in the prescribed form (available in the website of the Bharath University) on or before 15<sup>th</sup> March/June/ September/December every year.

(iii) The candidates selected shall be provisionally registered for the concerned session, after which a Doctoral Committee shall be constituted for each candidate to provide expert opinion on frontline researches.

#### **4. RESEARCH SUPERVISOR**

(i) The candidate shall work under the guidance of a Research Supervisor who may be chosen by him/her from among the panel of Research Supervisors duly approved by the Bharath University.

(ii) The candidate shall have the guidance of a Joint Research Supervisor, if his/her is an interdisciplinary research.

(iii) A Research Supervisor shall guide not more than eight doctoral candidates at any time. However, he/she shall guide three more candidates as a Joint Research Supervisor.

#### **5. DOCTORAL COMMITTEE**

(i) A Doctoral Committee shall be constituted for each candidate separately immediately after his/her provisional admission with the Research supervisor (Convener), Joint Research Supervisor and two subject experts.

(ii) The Doctoral Committee shall meet twice a year till the submission of the Synopsis of the thesis by the candidate.

(iii) The Doctoral Committee shall scrutinize the research proposal submitted by the candidate, finalize the title, frame syllabus for the course work, evaluate the candidate's aptitude for research and his/her suitability for research, and approve the synopsis of the thesis.

## **6. COURSE WORK**

(i) A candidate with PG degree shall complete THREE courses, viz. (a) Research Methodology, (b) a Background subject related to his/her doctoral research, and (c) an Advanced Subject in his/her area of research.

(ii) A candidate with M. Phil. degree shall complete TWO courses, viz. (a) a Background subject related to his/her doctoral research, and (b) an Advanced Subject in his/her area of research.

(iii) A candidate's provisional registration shall be confirmed after he/she comes out successfully in the Course Work.

## **7. MONITORING CANDIDATE'S PROGRESS**

The candidate shall submit half-yearly progress report in the prescribed form duly endorsed by his/her research Supervisor.

## **8. DURATION OF THE PROGRAMME**

(i) A candidate with M. Phil. degree shall work for a minimum period of THREE years and a maximum period of FIVE years from the date of provisional registration.

(ii) A candidate with PG degree shall work for a minimum period of FOUR years and a maximum period of SIX years from the date of provisional registration.

### **8.1. Extension**

(i) Extension of time for submission of Ph.D. thesis will be granted up to a maximum period of TWO years on the payment of the fees prescribed from time to time.

(ii) Such extension will be granted for a duration of six months in the first instance and additional three six monthly extensions may be granted, making a total of two years in exceptional cases with the recommendation of the supervisor.

### **8.2. Early Submission**

It shall be competent for the Bharath University to permit a candidate to submit the thesis earlier by a period of not exceeding six months, provided such requests for earlier submission from candidate is accompanied by:

(i) the recommendation of the supervisor for the relaxation based on the satisfactory completion of the research work for the thesis topic with evidence that the candidate has been working consistently even prior to his / her provisional registration for the Ph.D. degree, on the topic of his / her research; and

(ii) evidence of having completed the required work for the thesis by way of at least two publications in the topic of Ph.D. research in recognized journals.

### **8.3. Re-registration**

- (i) A candidate who has not submitted the thesis at the end of seven (M.Phil qualified) / eight years (PG qualified), will be permitted to re-register under the same supervisor in the same topic with the prescribed fees.
- (ii) The re-registered candidate shall be permitted to submit his / her thesis after a period of ONE YEAR but not later than TWO Years.
- (iii) For re-registered candidates with change of supervisor and / or topic of the thesis, the required period shall be similar to that of freshly registered candidates.

## **9. CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION**

The registration shall be cancelled at any point of time, if a candidate fails to

- (i) pay the prescribed fees in time,
- (ii) submit his / her thesis even after the maximum period mentioned above, and
- (iii) to follow research ethics

## **10. SUBMISSION OF SYNOPSIS**

(i) The synopsis shall contain the title of the thesis, its objective, methodology, structure and findings (not exceeding 3000 words).

(ii) A candidate shall submit FIVE copies of the synopsis approved by the doctoral committee along with a soft copy to the Controller of Examinations through the Research Supervisor.

(iii) There can be a maximum time gap of four months between the submission of the synopsis and the submission of the thesis.

## **11. THESIS**

(i) The thesis shall not exceed 300 pages excluding the bibliography, annexures, etc. The thesis should be in A4 size.

(ii) FIVE copies of the thesis along with a soft copy (in the approved format) shall be submitted not later than four months after the submission of the synopsis duly forwarded by the Research Supervisor.

## **12. EVALUATION OF THESIS**

(i) A thesis shall be evaluated by a Board of Adjudicators consisting of three scholars, viz. the Research Supervisor (Chairperson), one from Tamil Nadu and one from elsewhere, constituted by the Bharath University from among the panel of 6 scholars (3 from Tamil Nadu and 3 from elsewhere) recommended by the Research Supervisor.

(ii) The thesis shall be accepted if all the three examiners accept it.

(iii) The thesis shall be rejected if two out of the three reject it.

(iv) If a revision of the thesis is sought, the candidate shall revise and resubmit it within a period of 6 months from the date of receipt of the orders.

(v) For the purpose of revaluation the revised thesis shall be sent to the examiner(s) who suggested the revision.

(vi) If an examiner suggests revision for the second time, the thesis, along with the reports of the examiner, will be placed before the Doctoral Committee. If the Doctoral Committee, after going through the reports and the thesis, suggests further revision, a revisit will be carried out and the revised thesis will be referred to the same examiner.

(v) If the revised thesis is rejected, it may be referred to a fourth examiner. If the fourth examiner too rejects it, the thesis is rejected once and for all. The fourth examiner should be selected from the same category (from Tamil Nadu/elsewhere).

(vi) If the Doctoral Committee does not recommend revision, the thesis, without further revision, shall be referred to a fourth examiner whose decision shall be final.

(vii) If the adjudicator fails to forward his report within the specified time, alternative arrangements shall be made.

### **13. VIVA-VOCE**

(i) A candidate shall take the viva-voce examination only when the thesis has been accepted by all the three examiners.

(ii) The Board of Viva-Voce shall be constituted by the Bharath University with the Research Supervisor (Chairperson) and a local scholar from among the panel of three scholars recommended by the Research Supervisor.

(iii) The Board of Viva-Voce shall determine the award of the degree based on the candidate's defence of his/her thesis and recommend the University for the award of the degree.

(iv) A candidate who is not successful at the public Viva-Voce examination will be permitted to take it a second time after the expiry of three months. There shall be no further opportunity.

(v) Video conferencing facilities can be permitted for special cases.

### **14. AWARD OF DEGREE**

(i) On the recommendation of the Board of Adjudicators and the Board of Viva-Voce, and after the submission of a soft copy of the thesis incorporating all the corrections/suggestions recommended at the time of viva-voce, the Bharath University shall declare the result and award the degree to the candidate.

### **15. PUBLICATION OF THESIS**

(i) A candidate desiring to publish his/her thesis shall submit a written request seeking permission to publish his/her thesis/findings through his/her Research Supervisor.

(iii) TWO copies of the thesis in its published form shall be submitted by the candidate to the Bharath University free of cost.

(iii) The thesis shall not be published without the approval of the Bharath University.

#### **Note:**

Notwithstanding anything contained in the above rules and regulations governing the Ph. D. programme, the Bharath University is vested with the powers to revise, amend and change them from time to time.