

BHARATHIAR UNIVERSITY: COIMBATORE – 641 046
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)
Modified Regulations with effect from January 2012 onwards

1. Preamble

The Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) is awarded to a candidate who, as per these regulations, has submitted a thesis on the basis of original and independent research in any particular discipline/inter-discipline that makes a contribution to the advancement of knowledge, which is approved by suitably appointed examiners as required.

2. Eligibility

All candidates should have passed a two-year PG degree course after 3-year Bachelor's degree course and Higher Secondary course of 2-year duration after 10-year SSLC (10+2+3+2) or one year Pre-degree after 11-year SSLC (11+1+3+2) or 10-year SSLC plus 3-year Diploma plus two year UG degree and two year PG (10+3+2+2) or four year UG degree and one year masters degree (10+2+4+1). Candidates who have passed the PG degree examination with less than 17 years of total duration of study are not eligible for admission to Ph.D. programme.

The following categories of candidates shall be registered for Ph.D. Programme:

a) **Full-time scholar** (with or without stipend/fellowship)

Research fellows / Research assistants / Technical assistants / Project assistants / Project Fellows / Research associates / appointed in the research projects funded by recognized agencies / Government / industries are also eligible to register for Ph.D. on a full-time basis in the same Department provided they satisfy the eligibility criteria laid in.

b) **Part-time scholar** (teacher or non-teacher)

The candidates belonging to any one of the categories of full time employment as teacher, scientist, research fellow, research assistant, technical assistant and project assistant may register at University Departments, Affiliated Colleges, Research Institutions, or R & D Centres / Laboratories coming under the territorial jurisdiction of Bharathiar University.

c) A candidate already holding a Ph.D. degree in a discipline / subject specialization is eligible to register for a second Ph.D. degree in another discipline / subject specialization.

3. Registration for Ph.D. Programme

3.1. The following candidates are eligible to register for the full-time/part-time Ph.D. programme:

A candidate who has qualified for the Master's Degree in the faculties of Arts, Sciences, Fine Arts, Commerce, Education, Social Science, Management and Engineering of this University or equivalent thereto. Candidates passing atleast 17 years of study under anyone of the categories prescribed under Eligibility supra are also eligible to register.

3.2. Full-time

A candidate having a minimum 55% (5% relaxation for SC/ST candidates in the minimum eligibility) marks in the qualifying examinations.

3.3. Part-time

- a) "A teacher working in a Department of the University or of an affiliated College of this University / Higher Secondary School / High School / Polytechnic / Colleges affiliated to other universities (in subjects other than Engineering, Medicine, Law and Agriculture)".
- b) Any Chartered Accountant/Cost Accountant/Company Secretary and other professionals with a minimum period of two years of experience after obtaining their professional qualification is eligible for Ph.D. registration. The subject for registration may be the same as that of the professional qualifications in the case of ACA/AICWA/ACS. The guides may be from the Departments of Commerce, Management Studies, Economics or concerned subjects.
- c) For candidate other than a teacher candidate, any permanent staff in a Government Office/Private or Public Ltd., Company/a recognized factory/institution/research institution/Educational Institution/business who has successfully completed probation and holds a Master's degree with a minimum of 50% of marks in the qualifying examination (staff includes Board of Directors, Proprietor and Partner) are eligible for Ph.D. registration in the relevant discipline.
 - i. Recognized factory means an industrial establishment and regulated by the factories Act.
 - ii. Recognized institution means any institution registered with the Registrar of Societies and has been duly audited by a recognized auditor for the last three years from the date of application and duly supported by an audit certificate.
 - iii. Recognized business means a business organization duly registered with Commercial Tax Department and three years standing in their business.
 - iv. Private/Public Ltd., Company registered under the Companies Act.
- d) Candidate working as a Guest Lecturer in a Govt. College or a Govt. Aided College in Tamilnadu or other State be allowed to register subject to the production of NOC from his/her employers.
- e) Transfer Certificate need not be insisted for admission to part-time M.Phil./Ph.D. programmes.

3.4. Candidates Registered for Ph.D. (Part time) outside Tamilnadu

Candidates from outside Tamilnadu be allowed to register for Part time Ph.D. subject to production of NOC from HOD/Head of the Employer where the candidate is employed.

An amount of ₹5,000/- will be collected as special fee from such candidates other than Tamilnadu.

3.5. Doctoral Committee :

For each research scholar, a three member doctoral committee consisting of guide and two experts from within Tamilnadu (one member is HOD) may be formed from the panel of experts submitted by the research supervisor through proper channel and the Vice-chancellor will nominate the expert from the panel.

The committee will meet to review the progress of the candidate at least twice during the period of the research program. The first meeting will be conducted if the candidate has cleared the Part I exams and made some progress in the research work or identification of the research problem. The committee has to recommend for the confirmation of registration. During the second meeting if the committee has satisfied with the research work of candidate, then the committee recommends for submission of the synopsis and thesis.

3.6 Ethics and grievance readdressal committee:

The Vice-Chancellor will form the above committee comprising the following members

- 1) The Dean (Research) - Convenor
- 2) The Dean of the concerned Discipline.
- 3) PG BOARD of Studies Chairman of concerned Discipline
- 4) Two subject experts nominated by VC.

This committee will scrutinize and recommend its decision to the Vice Chancellor on the following issues:

- 1) Ethical issues related to plagiarism, authorship of the papers etc.,
- 2) Issues related to problems between guide and students.
- 3) Issues in the interdisciplinary research.
- 4) Any other issue related to research etc.,

3.7. Under independent registration:

- a) Teachers with M.Phil. or equivalent qualification, working in the Departments of this University or in colleges affiliated to this University or Govt. Research Institutions within university area with at least **six years** of teaching/research experience after obtaining M.Phil. degree (total experience put in Bharathiar University and other Universities will be taken into account), may register for Ph.D. without a guide, as part time scholars.
- b) In case of lab oriented programmes, if the department to which the candidate belongs to, is not recognized for research by Bharathiar University, the candidate is required to produce a certificate from other such recognized departments of the affiliated college/Institutions indicating clearly that he/she will be permitted to utilize the facility available there.
- c) **Independent Research Committee** consisting of Dean of Research, Dean of the concerned Discipline and one outside expert appointed by the Vice-chancellor should be formed to assess the candidate for the suitability of independent research. However, those

registered under this category of independent research, can opt to work under a recognized guide at any stage after getting approval of the Independence Research committee and University based on valid reasons on payment of a 'status change fee'.

- d) Any requisition for the appointment of research supervisors in case of candidates under independent category, after submission of thesis be not entertained.

3. **Procedure for Admission**

The university should issue the notification in the university website or advertise in the news papers for M.Phil./Ph.D. admissions. Admissions shall be made through an entrance test followed by an interview. However, UGC/CSIR-NET/SLET/GATE/M.Phil. qualified/Teacher fellowship holders need not appear for entrance test. Such candidates shall be directly admitted to the doctoral programmes through interview. The interview committee should be formed with the following members.

- 1). Dean of concerned discipline
- 2). Head of the Department / Head of the Division
- 3). The recognized guides of the Department / Division

Common Entrance exam for M.Phil. & Ph.D. programme shall be conducted during month of **May/June**. The awarded marks may be used by the candidates for one academic year or for the registration in the ensuing **August / January** registration only. The entrance test may be conducted at four centres **Coimbatore, Erode, Nilgiris and Pollachi**.

Question Paper model:

Written Examinations Format (PG Syllabus):
Maximum Marks: 35; Time: 1.30 hours

Section A (15x1=15); Objective type (MCQ)

Section B (4x5=20); Answer any four out of eight;
All questions carry equal marks; Answer should not exceed one page each

4.1. **Allocation of Supervisor**

Allocation of the supervisor for the selected candidates for Ph.D./M.Phil. programme shall be decided in a counseling by the Interview Committee where the research interest of the candidate, available specializations in the Department and vacancy position under each research supervisor shall be taken into consideration.

5. **Duration of Research**

5.1. **Full-time**

A candidate registered as a full-time scholar for Ph.D. programme possessing any one of the qualifications of 2 supra shall work continuously in the Department under a

supervisor for a minimum period of THREE YEARS after provisional registration before submission of thesis.

5.2. Part-time

A candidate registered for Ph.D. programme as a part-time scholar possessing any one of the qualifications of 2 and 3 supra shall work for a minimum period of FOUR YEARS after provisional registration before submission of thesis.

5.3. Exemption

Exemption of ONE YEAR from the minimum duration required is permissible in respect of candidates who possess an M.Phil. or M.Litt. (in the relevant/related subject). Candidates who have already appeared for M.Phil. (Part I and Part II examinations) and awaiting results at the time of interview for Ph.D. selection will also be eligible for this exemption, provided the results are published within six months of their admission for Ph.D. programme. This Exemption may be availed by the current Ph.D. students also.

Further, candidates who are exempted for Part-I alone have to mandatorily complete the duration specified for PG Degree holders before the submission of thesis.

For candidates with double Masters degree and one M.Phil. degree need not be exempted from appearing for Research Methodology (Part-I, Course-1) and be asked to complete the duration specified for PG degree holders before the submission of the thesis.

	PG Degree holders		M. Phil. Degree holders	
	Minimum period	Maximum Period	Minimum period	Maximum period
Full Time	3 years	5 years	2 years	4 years
Part Time	4 years	6 years	3 years	5 years

5.4. Attendance Requirements

- (a) A candidate registered on a full-time basis shall work for the minimum period of research prescribed in 5.1 and 5.3 supra after the date of provisional registration and before submission of the thesis in the department of institution under continuous supervision.
- (b) A candidate registered on a part-time basis in all subjects not involving laboratory works shall attend at least for 60 days during the course of research at the institution where the supervisor is attached. The supervisor has to issue the attendance certificate to be forwarded by the Head of the Department and Principal to the Controller of Examinations, Bharathiar University.
- (c) Provided that those who have been permitted to be registered on a part-time basis in subjects involving laboratory work in an institution other than where they are working, shall be required to work for a minimum total period of 120 days in the institution directly under the supervisor.

6. Application for Provisional Registration

- a) A candidate applying for provisional registration shall furnish all the information *inter alia* in the form prescribed together with the fee prescribed.
- b) Every applicant who satisfies all the conditions and procedures prescribed shall, after approval by the University, be provisionally registered for Ph.D. programme.
- c) Candidates shall be permitted to register for Ph.D. programme under interdisciplinary area. For details, the candidate can refer to part 18 'Interdisciplinary Research'.

7. Institutions Where Research Can Be Done

A candidate may be permitted to pursue research leading to the award of Ph.D. degree in any one of the following institutions subject to satisfying conditions of eligibility, availability of supervisor and necessary facilities.

- a) The Departments of study and research of the University and Endowment Chairs in the University.
- b) Departments of colleges affiliated to the University and recognized as having necessary facilities for carrying out research branch of study concerned by the due University procedures provided that the Departments should have been offering the undergraduate / postgraduate course concerned for a minimum period of THREE YEARS. (Full-time & Part-time for laboratory subjects and Full-time for non-laboratory subjects)
- c) All India Research Institutions and Regional Research Institutions duly recognized by the University
- d) R & D Centres/Laboratories of public and private sector undertakings located in the territorial jurisdiction of the University and recognized by the University as having necessary facilities for carrying out research at an advanced level.
- e) Research Department shall have at least one recognized Ph.D. guides to consider grant of recognition to conduct Ph.D. programme.
- f) The Syndicate may permit candidates who are working as teachers or in other related capacity to register for Ph.D. programme under a supervisor in another Institution in the neighbourhood within the territorial jurisdiction of the University and approved by the University for the purpose.
- g) Candidates can register for Ph.D. programme with qualified supervisors in any affiliated College in non-laboratory courses in Humanities, Languages, Social Sciences, Education, Physical Education and Commerce etc.
- h) Penalty of ₹1000/- per year be paid by the approved candidates/Independent candidates who do not pay the special fees in time.

- i) When the guide changes the Institution, the viva voce may be conducted at the place of registration or at the place where the guide is working or at Bharathiar University campus.
- j) When a guide moves to an Institution out side the jurisdiction of Bharathiar University, he has to apply and get a guide continuation certificate from Bharathiar University to continue his guide recognition.
- k) The maximum intake of candidates for full-time and part-time Ph.D. programme in each Department of the Institution will be fixed by the inspection commission constituted by the University based on the facilities and paper publications in the research journals.

8. Guide or Supervisor for Research

- a) Every scholar registered for Ph.D. programme shall work under the continuous supervision of a recognized guide or supervisor.
- b) Depending on the situations, such as, long absence of the guide from station for more than six months, research problem involving specializations other than that of the guide and interdisciplinary nature of research problem, guide can authorize a co-guide with the approval of the University.

8.1. Qualification for Guide Recognition

A Teacher/Scientist who is in employment may be recognized as a supervisor for guiding students leading to the award of Ph.D. degree, provided he/she possesses a Ph.D. degree of this University or of any other University recognized by the Syndicate as equivalent thereto.

1. Minimum one year after obtaining Ph.D. degree
2. One published research paper in a referred journal for arts subjects and one published research paper in the SCI journals for science subjects after the award of Ph.D. degree.
3. A supervisor shall guide Ph.D./M.Phil. in only one discipline on which he/she will claim for guideship.
4. Any guide having recognition for more than one subject he/she shall deem fit to have any one subject only based on his/her choice. Such choice must go along with the department where he/she is working.

8.2. Age Limit for guides

- a) Upper age limit for registering fresh candidates for Ph.D. is 57 years of age in the case of teachers of affiliated colleges and 59 years of age in the case of University teachers one calendar year prior to retirement. The reappointed guides in any recognized research department/institute/organization or in receipt of Major Research Projects will be permitted to register Ph.D. candidates till 62 years of age.
- b) When a guide retires before the student completes his/her Ph.D., the guide shall continue to supervise the candidate for the degree. The Candidate shall also be permitted to re-

register for Ph.D. under the same guide after his/her retirement from service in order to maintain the continuity of the research work.

- c) For Ph.D. programme in Yoga for human excellence, guide recognition shall also be granted to persons not in service and they shall be permitted to register and guide students. Degree shall be awarded under the faculty of Education.

8.3. Librarians, Deputy Librarians, Directors of Physical Education and Assistant Directors of Physical Education who are working in the teaching Departments of the University or in the affiliated colleges of the University may be permitted to guide a maximum of FOUR Ph.D. candidates (both full-time and part-time put together) in addition to two M.Phil. candidates at any given time in their respective field of specialization in addition to their normal duties, provided they have teaching responsibilities.

8.4. Teachers employed in various Departments of the University or affiliated colleges of the University may be permitted to serve as guides, irrespective of their discipline/area of research, for the research students, enrolled in the respective Departments.

(For example a teacher with Zoology or Botany or Chemistry qualification, but appointed as a teacher in the Department of Environmental Science or Microbiology or Biochemistry or Biotechnology or Bio informatics be recognized as a guide for students registering in the discipline/department, in which teacher is appointed).

For Details, refer to Part 18, "Interdisciplinary Research".

9. Number of candidates under a supervisor

The total number of candidates registered for Ph.D. programme including part-time scholars at any point of time shall not exceed **EIGHT** (including re-registered candidates) for a research supervisor in addition to the permissible **FIVE** M.Phil. candidates.

For assessing the number of vacancies under a supervisor the actual date of submission of the thesis by the candidates registered shall be taken into account.

The maximum intake of candidates for full-time and part-time laboratory programme in each college department/Division of R & D Institution will be fixed by the inspection commission constituted by the University.

Maximum M.Phil./Ph.D. strength for Full Time/Part Time course for any college Department/Division of R & D Institution at any given time for non-laboratory courses shall be fixed by the inspection commission.

Self declaration to be given by the guide, that the total number of registered Ph.D. research scholars in all universities with all schemes should not be more than eight. In case if more no. of students registered under (Max.8) him/her in any university, this registration will automatically get cancelled.

DECLARATION BY THE SUPERVISOR

Presently, on date, I have the following Ph.D. research scholars who are pursuing research under my guidance (in all universities) and have not yet submitted their dissertations.

Sl. No.	Name of Candidate	Full-time/ Part-time	University
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			

Date :

Research Supervisor

10. Change of Supervisors and Transfer of Scholars

- a) Transfer of Ph.D. scholars from one supervisor to another supervisor can be effected if mutual willingness was given by both the original and new supervisors by issuing NOC. An amount of ₹500/- be collected from the candidate for processing. In the case of guides who have shifted from the Bharathiar University jurisdiction, NOC need not be insisted.
- b) In the case of change of supervisor or transfer of candidates, if proposed, without the consent of any one of the parties concerned, the matter shall be referred to a Committee constituted with the Chairman, BOS (PG) in the concerned subject, Chairman, BOS in Research and a subject expert nominated by the Vice Chancellor, who's decision shall be final. An amount of ₹1,000/- be collected from the candidates for processing.
- c) The supervisors who wish to avail leave/lien/deputation beyond a period of SIX MONTHS shall nominate co-guides in the concerned subject for the candidates registered with them and the fact shall be intimated to the University in advance.

11. Change of Topic / Specialization

Change of topic of research by the candidate is permitted in exceptional cases. An amount of ₹1000/- be collected from the candidate for change of topic. The time limit fixed for change of topic of research in Ph.D.. programme is as follows:

FULL-TIME: Within eighteen months from the date of registration, in case of candidates registered with Master's degree qualification and within twelve months from the date of registration, in case of candidates registered with M.Phil. qualification.

PART-TIME: Within twenty-four months from the date of registration, in case of candidates registered with Master's Degree qualification and within eighteen months from the date of registration, in case of candidates registered with M.Phil. qualification.

12. Cancellation of Ph.D. Registration

- a) In case of candidates (Full Time/Part Time) who do not possess an M.Phil. degree and have not passed Part I course work of M Phil in the relevant subject within the minimum period and subject to a maximum of three appearances, their registration shall be cancelled.
- b) For cancellation of Ph.D. registration in the absence of candidate's letter, the supervisor may write a letter to the Registrar who in turn informs the same to the candidate. If no reply is received for more than three months, his/her Ph.D. registration will be cancelled.

13. Examination and Evaluation

13.1. PART-I : Course Work Examination and Evaluation

Every candidate provisionally registered for Ph.D. Programme shall undertake course work in the first year. The course work (Part I) consists of the following written papers (same as Part I of M.Phil.):

- Course I : Research Methodology (Research Methods of the concerned discipline)
Course II : Research Trends in the concerned discipline / Advances in the concerned discipline
Course III: Special Paper (Pertaining to the area of specialization chosen by the candidate under a guide)

Notes:

- a) The syllabi for courses I, II & III will be framed by the guides committee and approved by the Board of Studies in Research and the Standing Committee on Academic Affairs.
- b) Candidates who have completed M.Phil. in a particular discipline, shall be exempted from Part I of Ph.D. programme, provided the candidate has registered for Ph.D. programme in the same discipline.
- c) In the case of Ph.D. programme in a related discipline, the exemption from writing part I examinations will be decided by the Chairman, BOS in Interdisciplinary Subjects in consultation with the chairman of the concerned disciplines.
- d) Candidates registered to Ph.D. programme in Computer Science with MCA qualification, must qualify with Part-I, irrespective of the faculty to which they belong to.
- e) The question paper pattern for M.Phil. Part I – written Examinations:
PART – A : Answer any Five out of Eight
5x8 = 40 Marks (one compulsory problem or case study)
PART –B : Answer Any Five out of Eight;
5x12 =60 Marks

- f) The University will conduct the central valuation by inviting experts from outside Bharathiar University area and then by experts from the BU area for another valuation.
- g) The Chairperson of the Board of Studies, University Depts./Convenor of the guides meeting shall be given the experts list in consultation with the other guides.

13.2. PART II - Thesis

Each candidate shall be required to choose a research problem in his/her chosen area of research specialization and submit a thesis incorporating the results of his/her original investigation, carried out under the supervision of a recognized supervisor.

13.3 Submission of Synopsis (Under Part II)

- a) The candidates shall submit to the University, through his / her research supervisor six copies of the synopsis of the thesis proposed to be submitted by him / her, along with the prescribed fees and certificates at the time of submission of Ph.D. thesis. However, the candidates are encouraged to submit synopsis three months before submission of thesis to enable the University to get the consent of examiners for the evaluation of the thesis. The synopsis shall not exceeded 6 type written or printed pages (one side of A4 size papers in Times New Roman, font size 12).
- b) While forwarding the synopsis, the guide shall submit to the University, in a sealed cover, the prescribed panels of examiners with brief Curriculum-Vitae that must contain e-mail id, for evaluating the thesis and for the conduct of the viva-voce examination.
- c) The synopsis shall not be accepted by the Controller of Examinations without the panel of examiners for the adjudication of the thesis as prescribed supra and submitted by the supervisor in a sealed cover without which.
- d) In the case of candidates who have independently registered for Ph.D., the Chairman of the PG Board of Studies shall submit a panel of three competent persons in the relevant Research area within 30 days of receipt of communication from University and one of them may be appointed as convener by the Vice-Chancellor.

13.4. Submission of Thesis (Under Part II)

- a) Not later than SIX MONTHS after the submission of the Synopsis and after the expiry of the minimum period of research prescribed, every candidate shall submit FIVE COPIES of the thesis embodying the results of the original research carried out by him/ her along with the prescribed application and fee. The hard copy must accompany a soft copy of the thesis.

- b) In order to promote Tamil in higher education and research, the candidates are generally permitted to submit an additional copy of the thesis in Tamil which will be kept in Library for reference.
- c) Ph.D. candidates shall publish at least one research paper in a refereed standard journal before submission of the thesis for adjudication for arts subjects. For science subjects one research paper shall publish in SCI journal before submission of the thesis and produce evidence for the same in the form of acceptance letter or the reprint with a certificate from the guide to this effect.

CERTIFICATE OF GENUINNESS OF THE PUBLICATION

This is to certify that Ph.D. candidate Mr. / Ms. working under my supervision has published a research article in the standard refereed/SCI journal named with Vol. No. Page Nos. and year of publication published by The contents of the publication incorporates part of the results presented in his / her thesis.

Countersigned
Principal / Head of the Dept. / Director
(College / University / Institute)

Research Supervisor

- d) Prior to submission of Ph.D. thesis, the student shall make pre-Ph.D. presentation in the Department that may be opened to all faculty members and research students, for getting feedback and comments, which may suitably be incorporated into the draft thesis under the advice of the supervisor.
- e) Thesis can also be submitted along with the Synopsis and Panel of Examiners after the expiry of the minimum period of research prescribed (Hard and Soft copies to be enclosed).
- f) The maximum length of the thesis should not exceed 250 A/4 size pages (typed matter) excluding bibliography, tables and diagrams and if the candidate so desires he / she may include published papers or manuscripts along with the thesis. Exemption from the restriction on page limit will under no circumstances be granted.
- g) Every candidate shall submit with his / her application for Ph.D. degree and the thesis, a declaration by himself / herself and a certificate from supervisor under whom he / she worked, in the prescribed formats, given below. An extra copy of each of the certificate and declaration, have to be submitted along with the thesis.

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis, entitled “ ” submitted to the Bharathiar University, in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of

the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in is a record of original and independent research work done by me during under the supervision and guidance of Dr. Department of and it has not formed the basis for the award of any Degree / Diploma / Associateship / Fellowship or other similar title to any candidate in any University.

Countersigned
(Research Supervisor)

Signature of the Candidate

Note: Candidates who are permitted to work without a guide shall also submit a declaration to the above effect.

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis entitled “.” submitted to the Bharathiar University, in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in is a record of original research work done by Mr./Ms. during the period of his/her study in the Department of at (College/Research Institute/Bharathiar University), under my supervision and guidance and the thesis has not formed the basis for the award of any Degree / Diploma / Associateship / Fellowship or other similar title to any candidate of any University.

Countersigned
Principal / Head of the Dept./Director
(College / University / Res. Institute)

Research Supervisor

- h) The title of the Synopsis and title of the Thesis shall be the same. The title page of the thesis, cover format, etc., should strictly conform to the format of presentation as prescribed. The thesis should NOT be hard bound and it should have a thin and flexible cover.
- i) Ph.D. Thesis/Synopsis may generally be written in English (for subjects other than languages). However the thesis may be written in Tamil provided a translated copy in English is also appended.
- j) For non receipt of panel of examiners from the supervisor within a month of submission of Ph.D./M.Phil. thesis by the candidate, the Vice-Chancellor is empowered to appoint a panel of examiners.

13.5. Maximum and Minimum period for Submission of Thesis

- a) Candidates with only PG qualification shall be permitted to submit their thesis, within a period of 5 years, but not before 3 years from the date of Registration, in case of full-time

Research and within a period of six years but only after 4 years from the date of Registration in case of part-time research.

- b) Candidates with M.Phil. qualification shall be permitted to submit their thesis, within a period of four years, but only after two years from the date of registration, in case of full-time research and within a period of five years, but not before three years from the date of registration in the case of part-time research.
- c) When a candidate gets his/her M.Phil. degree after registration to Ph.D. programme, his M.Phil. degree will be considered for his Minimum / Maximum periods of submission of Ph.D. thesis with the payment of a 'Status change fee'.

PG Degree holders			M.Phil. Degree holders	
	Minimum Period	Maximum Period	Minimum Period	Maximum Period
Full Time	3 years	5 years	2 years	4 years
Part Time	4 years	6 years	3 years	5 years

- d) Extension of time for submission of Ph.D. thesis will be granted upto a **maximum period of two years on the payment of the fees prescribed as detailed below**. 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 supervisor. **At a time, two extensions are admissible after paying the necessary fees and penalty.**

The Vice-Chancellor shall grant Special Extension up to one year in special cases after considering the report of the Ethics and Grievance Committee.

First Extension	- ₹ 500/-	penalty + Fees
Second Extension	- ₹ 1,000/-	penalty + Fees
Third Extension	- ₹ 2,000/-	penalty + Fees
Fourth Extension	- ₹ 2,500/-	penalty + Fees
Special Extension	- ₹ 3,000/-	penalty + Fees

13.6. Adjudication of Ph.D.. thesis

- a) For all Ph.D. thesis (except Tamil), the panel of examiners consisting of four foreign examiners and four Indian examiners (from within Tamilnadu but outside Bharathiar University geographical area or from other states within south India – Kerala, Karnataka, Andra Pradesh and Pandicherry) will be submitted by the Guide in a sealed envelop. The Indian examiner who valued the thesis will be the examiner for conducting Viva-Voce examination. There is no separate panel for conducting the viva-voce examination.
- b) For non receipt of panel of examiners from the supervisor within a month of submission of Ph.D./M.Phil. thesis by the candidate, the Vice-Chancellor is empowered to appoint a panel of examiners.

- c) As soon as the reports are received from the Guide, foreign and Indian examiners, the reports shall be sent to the guide / convener to prepare a consolidated report and recommendation. The Guide shall send his / her consolidate report with recommendation within 30 working days of receipt to the Controller of Examinations.
- d) For Ph.D. thesis in Tamil, the panel may consist of four examiners from outside Tamilnadu and four examiners from Tamil Nadu but outside the geographical jurisdiction of Bharathiar University. An examiner within India may be appointed to evaluate Ph.D. thesis in the subject of Tamil, as well as thesis written in Tamil in the subjects of Linguistics and other Indian Languages in lieu of a foreign examiner due to paucity of foreign examiners.
- e) Only a Full-time faculty working in the cadre of Professor/Associate Professor/equivalent cadre in the Research Institutions may be considered for appointment as Indian or Foreign Examiner for Ph.D. thesis evaluation.
- f) The thesis submitted by the candidate shall be referred for adjudication to a Board of Examiners consisting of two persons, of whom one shall be from the panel of examiners suggested from outside Bharathiar University geographical area (within South India) and the other from outside India. Each member of the Board shall adjudicate the thesis and submit a detailed report (in the prescribed form) on the merits and demerits of the thesis and finally indicate whether the thesis is 'Not Commended', 'Commended' or 'Recommended for resubmission'.
- g) If the University does not get the evaluation report from any examiner even after the second reminder (90 days from the date of receipt of thesis), another examiner shall be appointed in his / her place.
- h) In case, both Indian and Foreign examiners have not commended the thesis, the thesis shall be rejected and the registration cancelled.
- i) In case one of the two examiners has not commended the thesis, the thesis shall be referred again to a third examiner, Indian or Foreigner as the case may be (i.e. if the thesis is not commended by a foreigner, the third examiner shall be a foreigner and if it is not commended by an Indian, the third examiner shall be an Indian)
- j) In the event of either the Indian or Foreign examiner rejects the thesis, till the report of the other examiner is received, the thesis should not be sent to the third examiner for adjudication.
- k) In case, the third examiner commends the thesis, it will be accepted and the candidate shall appear for the Public Viva-voce examination. However, if the third examiner does not commend the thesis, the thesis shall be rejected and the registration cancelled.
- l) If the examiners insist upon corrections to be made in the thesis, the same shall be made before appearing for the Public Viva-voce examination, along with a certificate from the guide that the corrections have been made satisfactorily.

- m) If the examiner / examiners suggest a revision and re-submission of the thesis, then the revised thesis duly certified by the guide shall be accepted and the candidate shall appear for the Viva-voce examination.
- n) In case of a thesis, which has not been specifically 'commended' or 'not commended' but revision suggested, the thesis shall be revised and the thesis duly certified by the guide, shall be sent to the examiner who has suggested the revision for obtaining the commendation.
- o) The candidate whose thesis has been approved shall submit himself / herself to a Public Viva-voce Examination to be conducted by a board of Examiners, consisting of the external Indian examiner, and the guide in the presence of the members of the Department and general public interested in the subject concerned, at the Department / Institution where he / she conducted research.
- p) There shall be only one viva-voce notification. Viva-Voce examination will be conducted for M.Phil./ Ph.D. students strictly within 30 days of receipt of consolidated report by the Controller of Examinations.
- q) In the case of change of Institution for conduct of Viva-voce examination when the guide changes the Institution, the Viva-voce examination may be conducted at the place of Registration or at the place where the guide is working or at Bharathiar University, to be decided by the VC.
- r) The guide / convener shall notify the date and time of the viva-voce examination in consultation with the Indian external examiner and inform the same to the Controller of Examinations. After conducting the Viva-Voce examination, the guide / convener shall convey to the University, the result of such examination endorsed by the external examiner. A candidate who is successful in the public Viva-Voce examination shall be declared to have qualified for Ph.D.. degree by the Syndicate.
- s) The medium of language for public Viva-voce examination will be English. However, the general public will be encouraged to ask questions in Tamil and clarifications shall be given to them in Tamil. The faculty members of the Department will be involved in the effective use of Tamil in Viva-voce examination. In Language Departments, the Viva-voce shall be in the respective languages.
- t) A candidate who is not successful at the Public Viva-Voce examination may be permitted to undergo the Viva-Voce examination a second time, within a period of three months but not before one month after the first viva-voce.
- u) The time-limit to resubmit the revised thesis, as per the suggestions for revision and resubmission of thesis by the examiner(s), shall not exceed twelve full months.
- v) A candidate shall not ordinarily be permitted to resubmit the thesis for the Degree or to take the Public Viva-voce examination on more than two occasions.

- w) The following guidelines be followed in appointing examiners as decided by the Syndicate (vide resolution No.188 dt. 05-08-2011)
1. The same foreign examiner for different theses be avoided. Let the Controller of Examinations serially number the theses in the same discipline along with the examiner's name and the same be provided to the Vice-Chancellor. For each candidate usually nine examiners names are provided and let the Controller of Examinations give the number of the theses valued by each examiner before and the number of theses allotted and pending for evaluation. The foreign examiners be serially arranged in such a way that the same examiner may allotted thesis for every fourth candidate to avoid the same examiner evaluating many theses in the same discipline.
 2. Indian Examiners be mostly preferred from the Central Universities or from National institutions.
 3. When choosing foreign examiners they be from standard or accredited foreign Universities and not from colleges.
 4. While submitting the list of candidates for approval or ratification the names of the examiners be also included here afterwards.
- x) The guide / convener is to furnish a certificate along with the report of the viva-voce examination, in connection with the suitability of the thesis for publication by the candidate, at a later date in the following format.

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that in the thesis entitled “.”
“.” submitted by “.”

- a) all the corrections/modifications suggested by the examiners have been incorporated and
- b) thesis does not have any objectionable material. Hence, the thesis is fit for publication, if the candidate so desires.

GUIDE / CONVENOR.

15. Publication of the Thesis

A thesis whether approved or not shall not be published in full without the permission of the Syndicate and the syndicate may grant permission for the publication under such conditions as it may impose.

A candidate may during the course of his / her research publish papers in standard research journals as advised by his /her supervisor, but the thesis as a whole shall not be published without obtaining permission of the syndicate mentioned supra.

16. Conferment of the Degree

A candidate shall be eligible for the conferment of Ph.D. degree, if he / she has undergone the prescribed programme for a period of not less than two years, (for those registered with M.Phil. qualification) or three years (for those registered with Masters degree qualification) in the case of Full-time programme, and not less than three years (for those registered with M.Phil. qualification) or four years (for those registered with Master's degree qualification) in the case of Part-time programme in an institution affiliated to / approved by the University and passed all the examinations and fulfils such conditions as have been prescribed therein.

After successful completion of the Viva-voce examination, a provisional certificate shall be issued bearing the title of Ph.D. thesis.

Candidates who qualify for Ph.D. degree shall be awarded the degree in the discipline in which the candidate was registered. Please refer part 19 'Interdisciplinary research'.

17. Conversion from Full-Time to Part-Time & vice-versa of Ph.D. Programme

Conversion from full-time to part-time and vice-versa of Ph.D. research will be allowed only under special circumstances, on payment of "Status Change fee":

The following formula will be adopted for conversion of full-time to part-time and vice-versa of Ph.D. programme. The residual period that the candidate has to complete, at the time of his / her application for conversion (from full-time to part-time or from part-time to full-time, as the case may be), for fulfilling the requirement of the minimum duration for submitting the thesis under the existing category be taken note of, and the equivalent of the corresponding period shall be determined and intimated to the candidate, without exceeding the maximum duration.

18. Interdisciplinary Research

Normally, students registering for M.Phil. / Ph.D. degrees in various Departments / Institutes will be given degrees in the major discipline(s) of the Departments, division of Institutes. As an example in the case of Management Department, the research degrees will be in Management and in Biotechnology Department, the degrees will be offered in Biotechnology.

However, students holding post-graduate degree are permitted to register for research programmes (M.Phil./Ph.D. degrees) in interdisciplinary areas in various Departments irrespective of the subjects of the study in their Post-Graduate degree. Such different subject of the candidate is for enrolling into Ph.D./M.Phil. programme only and not for award of degree in that subjects. The M.Phil./Ph.D. degree shall be awarded in the discipline of the department where the guide and student have performed the research. The committee consisting of the Dean Research, Chairpersons of Board of Studies of the concerned subjects should decide the eligibility of the candidate's subject for admission to M.Phil./ Ph.D. interdisciplinary programmes.

Co-guide shall be encouraged but not mandatory for interdisciplinary studies. On any account the subject of co-guide shall not be considered for the award of the degree. Further, co-guide's department need not be a recognized research department for that purpose. However, co-guide must form part of doctoral committee and should sign in the thesis.

19. Re-registration

For Re-registration, the candidate should prove the progress of the research work before the Independent Research Committee. The re-registered candidate shall be permitted to submit his/her thesis at any time after re-registration, within a maximum period of two years.

20. Transitory provision

These regulations will come into effect from 1st January 2012. In the case of candidates registered for Ph.D. programme prior to 1st January 2012 the previous regulations shall be applicable. However, candidates who have worked in the interdisciplinary areas and are yet to get their Ph.D. degrees have the option of getting their degrees in the discipline of their postgraduate degrees by submitting a request to the Controller of Examinations.

The University may from time to time revise, amend or change the regulations, scheme of examinations, syllabus and fee structure, if found necessary and such amendments, changes shall come into effect from the date prescribed.

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