



Ph.D. REGULATIONS 2012

[Adopted under the WB National University of Juridical Sciences Act 1999 and following the guidelines of the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degree), Regulations 2009]

THE WEST BENGAL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES

**12 LB BLOCK, SALT LAKE CITY, KOLKATA
700098, INDIA**

**THE WB NUJS REGULATIONS GOVERNING AWARD
OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
(Ph.D.) 2012**

1. TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT

- 1.1 These Regulations shall be called the Regulations governing the standards and procedures for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy [Ph.D.] of the West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences (NUJS), Kolkata.
- 1.2 These Regulations shall come into force from the date of assent by the Academic Council.

2. DEFINITIONS

In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires

- 2.1 "Approved list of Examiners" means the panel of examiners chosen by the Vice Chancellor, recommended by the Academic Council and approved and appointed by the Executive Council of the University for adjudicating/evaluating the Ph.D. thesis.
- 2.2 "Candidate" means any person who satisfies the prescribed eligibility conditions as stated later in Section 5 and who intends to register for the Ph.D. degree;
- 2.3 "Co-guide" means the recognized supervisor(s) who supervises the Ph.D. work of a candidate jointly with the guide satisfying eligibility as in Section 4 below;
- 2.4 "Course work" means the compulsory preparatory study to be undertaken by a candidate as prescribed by Doctoral Committee;
- 2.5 "Degree" means the degree of Doctor of Philosophy [Ph.D.];
- 2.6 "Doctoral Committee (Ph.D.)" means the Committee constituted by the Vice Chancellor and approved by the Academic Council.
- 2.7 "Foreign candidate" means any person who is a foreign national with a valid foreign Passport, satisfying the prescribed eligibility conditions as stated later in Section 5 and who intends to register for the degree, with a valid research visa;
- 2.8 "Guide" means the recognized supervisor for the research work of a candidate satisfying eligibility as in Section 4 below to oversee the research work of a candidate;
- 2.9 "University" means the West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata.

**3. CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE DOCTORAL COMMITTEE
(Ph.D.)**

- 3.1 The Doctoral Committee (Ph.D.) shall consist of
 - (a) the Vice Chancellor,

- (b) Seven members designated by the Vice Chancellor for three years among the Professors, Associate Professors and Assistant Professors of the University having Ph D degree.

The Vice Chancellor shall be the Chairperson of the Doctoral Committee (Ph.D.). Wherever the Vice Chancellor shall be absent, the senior most Professor of Law of the University shall be the Chairperson. The Assistant Registrar (Academic) shall be the secretary of the committee. Any research guide who is not a member of the Doctoral Committee (Ph.D.) may be specially invited whenever the presentation of his/her candidate before the Doctoral Committee (Ph.D.) is held.

3.2 The Doctoral Committee (Ph.D.) shall

- (a) Prepare the list of recognized guides and co-guides
- (b) Conduct pre-registration colloquium as in 6.5 below,
- (c) Allocate guides and co-guides
- (d) Assess annual progress reports of a candidate submitted as in Section 7 below, and offer possible suggestions for improvement, if any, regarding the progress of research work to the candidate;
- (e) Conduct pre-submission colloquium as in 8.1 below;
- (f) Conduct open viva-voce of the candidate as in 8.6 below.

4. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR RECOGNITION AS GUIDE

4.1 Professors, Associate Professors and Assistant Professors working in the University are eligible to be recognized as Ph.D. Guides if they have a Ph.D. in that subject and involved in the research.

4.2 Faculty who attain superannuation or resign their jobs will forfeit recognition as Guide / Co-guide. However, such a person shall sign a letter that he/ she shall have the responsibility of continuing to guide candidates who were registered under him / her, before getting relieved from the University.

4.3 A Guide / Co-guide may supervise not more than eight candidates at a time.

5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR A CANDIDATE

Any candidate who satisfies the following conditions is eligible to seek registration for Ph.D. in the University upon application for provisional registration after going through these Regulations and Guidelines for Ph.D. which shall be supplied along with the application.

5.1 The candidate shall have Masters Degree of any University recognized by UGC or an equivalent Masters degree of foreign University, with a minimum of 55% marks or equivalent Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA). However, this condition is relaxed to 50% in case of candidates belonging to SC and ST.

Explanation:

In case of foreign University, the factor of equivalence shall be decided by the Doctoral committee (Ph. D)

- 5.2 Entrance Test: Admission to Ph.D. shall be through an Entrance Test and Interview. Applications for Entrance Test shall be invited once a year in the month of July, depending on the vacancies existing in each specialized area.
- 5.3 The Entrance Test shall consist of one paper of 80 marks with 3 hours duration. The syllabus of the paper shall cover, Law and Social Transformation in India, Indian Constitutional Law: the New Challenges, Judicial Process and Legal Education and Research Methodology.
- 5.4 Depending on the vacancies available in the University, candidates shall be called for Interview in the ratio 1:3 based on the marks scored in the Entrance Test. The Interview shall be for 20 marks to be conducted by the Doctoral Committee (Ph.D).
- 5.5 Candidates who have qualified for UGC/SLET/SET/JRF fellowships are exempted from the Entrance Test.
- 5.6 Candidates with M Phil degree from any recognized University are exempted from Entrance Test.
- 5.7 Foreign candidates who have LL M degree from a foreign university or Indian University with a minimum of 55% marks or equivalent Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) shall be exempted from the requirement of entrance test, provided that the Doctoral Committee (Ph.D) is satisfied about their research proposal.
- 5.8 Provisional Registration: Selected candidates shall apply in the prescribed form for Provisional Registration as Doctoral Candidates after payment of stipulated fee to the University.

6. REGULAR REGISTRATION

- 6.1 The provisionally registered candidates (Including candidates who have qualified for UGC JRF/NET/SLET/SET or having M Phil degree) shall undergo Ph.D. Course Work of one semester duration from the date of Provisional Registration, prescribed by the University in:
 - (a) Advanced Research Methodology (100 marks), and
 - (b) Research proposal along with the Review of Literature in the area of research (200 marks).

The syllabus for Advanced Research Methodology shall be common and evaluation for 50 marks shall be based on Tutorials, Seminars, Assignments and Evaluation for 50 marks shall be based on a Written Test.

- 6.2 After 16 weeks of Course Work, which shall consist a minimum of 32 hours of contact classes, the University shall conduct a Written

Assessment Test for Advanced Research methodology paper. The Doctoral Committee (Ph.D) shall assess for 200 marks in total: (a) Review of Literature submitted in writing (50 Marks); (b) Seminar presentations preceded by submission of Seminar Report/s (50 Marks) and (c) Research Proposal in the area of research and its presentation (100 Marks).

6.3 Candidates who are unsuccessful in the Course Work shall be permitted to re-appear for Assessment within one year from the date of announcement of the results. Provisional Registration of a candidate who fails in the Assessment of Course Work in two attempts shall be canceled.

6.4 Allocation of Guide and Co-Guide

The allocation of the Guide and Co-Guide for a selected student shall be decided by the Doctoral Committee (Ph.D) in a formal manner depending on the number of student per faculty member, the available specialization among the faculty supervisors, and the research interest of the student as indicated during interview by the student. The allotment/allocation of Guide and Co-Guide shall not be left to the individual student or teacher. The co-guide may be from outside the University also.

6.5 Pre-registration Colloquium:

(a) After successful completion of Course Work a candidate, in consultation with his / her Guide, shall identify the Title of the proposed research topic within a month of announcement of results. The candidate shall then prepare a Synopsis in consultation with his / her Guide and shall submit ten hard copies of the Ph.D. Synopsis of five thousand words along with a soft copy to the University. On the request of Guide, Doctoral Committee (Ph.D) shall organize a meeting at the earliest from the receipt of the Synopsis to conduct the Pre-registration Colloquium.

(b) The Doctoral Committee (Ph.D) may suggest changes, if necessary, in the title/scope methodology of the topic selected for research, based on the performance of the candidate in the Pre-registration Colloquium.

(c) The Doctoral Committee (Ph.D) shall assess the preparedness of the candidate for the research to be undertaken. It may, however, ask the candidate to present the Colloquium again if the performance/preparedness of the candidate in the first instance is not satisfactory. Only one re-appearance is permitted within 6 months from the date of the first Colloquium.

(d) The failure of the candidate to successfully complete the pre registration colloquium after the second attempt shall result in the cancellation of Provisional Registration.

6.6 Ph.D. Registration: Application for Registration with prescribed fees shall be submitted to the University within one month from the date of

informing the candidates about the successful completion of Pre-registration Colloquium along with 10 hard copies of the Synopsis and a soft copy of the synopsis through the Guide and co-guide, if any, after successful completion of the Pre-registration Colloquium.

6.7 The Ph.D. Registration is valid for FIVE years only from the date of Provisional Registration.

7. PROGRESS OF WORK

7.1 After the Regular Registration, a candidate is required to submit the following once a year within one month of completion of the year to the University:

- (a) Progress Report of Research Work done,
- (b) Prescribed fees,
- (c) Recommendation of the Guide regarding progress of research.

7.2 The Annual Progress Report shall be placed before to the Doctoral Committee (Ph.D) within 15 days of receipt. The Doctoral Committee (Ph.D) shall assess the Progress Report and send its comments.

7.3 Failure to submit two Consecutive Annual Progress Reports shall entail cancellation of registration.

7.4 The candidate shall publish at least two research articles as main author, based on his / her Research Work in journals of repute in order to be eligible to submit the final thesis.

8. SUBMISSION OF THESIS AND EVALUATION

8.1 Pre-submission Colloquium:

(a) The candidate is eligible to submit his / her Thesis only after completing 3 years of Research Work from the date of his / her provisional Registration.

(b) The candidate has to submit 10 copies of the Synopsis of his / her Ph.D. Thesis highlighting contents of the Thesis and enclose evidences of two research publications in the area of research in Journals/books of repute in the form of acceptance letters or published papers, to the University.

(c) The Chairperson of the Doctoral Committee (Ph.D) shall organize the Pre-Submission Colloquium meeting before the faculty members in the University at the earliest.

(d) The Doctoral Committee (Ph.D) shall advise and offer suggestions to the candidate for the finalization of the Thesis.

(e) The decision of the Doctoral Committee (Ph.D) shall be communicated to the candidate.

(f) If the Doctoral Committee (Ph.D) is not satisfied with the Pre-thesis Submission Colloquium of a candidate, it may ask the candidate to appear for the Colloquium again after a gap of one month.

8.2 Submission of Ph.D. Thesis:

- (a) After the successful completion of pre-submission colloquium, the candidate shall submit a soft copy of the final thesis.
- (b) The candidate shall prepare a Thesis embodying results of original research and submit 5 copies of his / her Ph.D. Thesis along with five copies of abstract of not more than thousand words and the electronic version of the Thesis in .pdf format (3 discs) for evaluation.
- (c) A certificate duly signed by the Guide and Co-guide, if any, indicating his / her supervision of the candidate and bonafide character of the work, along with a declaration by the candidate about the originality and the fact that it has not been previously submitted by the candidate either for award of any Degree or Diploma to this or any other University, shall be enclosed along with the Thesis.
- (d) If any candidate fails to submit his / her Ph.D. Thesis within five years, he / she may apply to University for extension of his / her Registration for a maximum of two more years with the recommendation of the Doctoral Committee, through the Guide, by remitting a penalty of Rs. 25,000/- in addition to the annual fee.
- (e) If a candidate fails to submit Thesis even after seven years, his / her Ph.D. Registration is annulled.

8.3 Evaluation of the Ph.D. Thesis: The Thesis shall be evaluated by three external examiners selected by the Vice Chancellor from the list of six examiners shortlisted by the Vice Chancellor in consultation with the Guide from the approved list of examiners.

8.4 Evaluation Reports:

- (a) The External Examiners shall send the Evaluation Report to the University.
- (b) Apart from the Evaluation Report, each Examiner is required to submit a Short Report in the prescribed proforma duly signed and sent as Hard Copy/ FAX/ Scanned Image by E-mail.

8.5 Decision about Evaluation:

- (a) For award of Ph D degree there shall be unanimous recommendation by all the three external examiners that the thesis be accepted for the award of Ph D degree.
- (b) If a minimum of two out of three of the External Examiners reject the Thesis outright, the University shall notify rejection of the Thesis and cancellation of Ph.D. Registration.
- (c) If one of the External Examiners rejects the thesis, the thesis shall be referred to another examiner. If this Examiner also rejects

the Thesis, the University shall notify Rejection of the Thesis and cancellation of Ph.D. Registration.

(d) If any one or more of the Examiners recommend/s revision and reevaluation of the Thesis, then the candidate shall revise the Thesis based on the suggestions made by the Examiner(s) and submit the Revised Thesis, duly certified by the Guide and with payment of the prescribed fees to the University. The University shall send the Revised Thesis at the earliest to the same Examiner(s).

(e) If any Examiner recommends the award of degree after incorporating the suggested revisions / corrections, such modifications shall be complied with by the candidate. The Revised Thesis shall be submitted to the University along with the prescribed fees.

8.6 **Viva-Voce Examination:**

(a) After receipt of three positive reports from the examiners, open Viva-Voce examination shall be conducted by the University in the presence of the members of the Doctoral Committee (Ph.D), research guide, one local external law professor, members of the Faculty, research scholars and students by giving wide publicity.

(b) If the candidate desires, the viva-voce examination may be held via video conferencing after payment of necessary additional fees prescribed by the University.

8.7 The Ph.D. degree would be awarded if three examiners give positive reports and the candidate successfully completes viva voce examination.

8.8 **Ph.D. Notification:** The Ph.D. Declaration Notification shall be done by the Registrar on the Official Letter Head.

9. CHANGE OF TITLE / GUIDE

9.1 A candidate desiring to change the title of the Thesis shall apply to the University with 10 copies of revised Synopsis and changed Title through the Guide after paying the prescribed fee.

9.2 The University shall seek the opinion of the Doctoral Committee (Ph.D) for the change of title. Such a change can be permitted anytime before the Pre-thesis Submission Colloquium.

9.3 If a candidate decides to change the topic of research, his / her regular registration stands canceled, and the candidate has to undergo the Regular Registration process again and may apply for pre-submission colloquium only after a period of three years from the date of registration of change.

9.4 Generally, change of Guide is not permissible. It may be permitted only under exceptional circumstances such as death / disability / other medical conditions of the Guide or legal actions on the Guide by the administration. However, if there is any written complaint about conflict between the Guide

and the candidate, the University shall refer the matter to the Doctoral Committee (Ph.D) for final decision.

10. Any issue not covered by the foregoing Regulations, shall be governed by the decision of the Vice-Chancellor.
11. The earlier rules/regulations governing the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) of NUJS are hereby repealed.