



NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, JODHPUR

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Rules for Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D.) Programme

1. The Degree of Doctor of Philosophy may be granted in Faculty of Law of the University subject to the general guidance of the Academic Council, and Board of Research Studies in this University. The Degree of Doctor of Philosophy shall be organized by Board of Research Studies of Law.
2. (A) The Board of Research shall be constituted from amongst the Faculties as below:-
 - (i) Dean of the faculty, who will be the Chairperson.
 - (ii) Three persons nominated by the Vice-Chancellor from amongst the Faculty Members.
 - (iii) One External Expert nominated by the Vice-Chancellor may be co-opted.

(B) The different Boards of Research Studies shall jointly meet twice a year, in the month of February and August. The synopsis, panel of examiners, appointment of supervisors and any other item requiring attention of the Board will be considered in these meetings. However in exceptional circumstances, the Vice-Chancellor may permit additional/individual meetings.

Part –I: Eligibility, Admission and Enrollment for Ph.D.

3. **Eligibility:** Post-graduation in the concerned discipline or subject, from a recognized Indian or foreign University, having at least 55% marks in aggregate or equivalent grade in the post-graduate examination.
4. **Admission and Enrollment:**
 - (i) The admission to the Ph.D. programme will ordinarily take place once in a year, at the beginning of academic session. The admission to the program will be through an entrance test and a personal interview. Candidates short listed through the entrance test will be called for the interview. At the time of interview, the candidates are expected to discuss their research interest/area.

- (ii) The applicant on being provisionally admitted will pay the prescribed fees and will be provisionally enrolled in the University. He/she shall be entitled to all the prescribed facilities of the University. His/her date of enrollment will be the date on which the fees are paid.
- (iii) A research scholar provisionally admitted to Ph. D. programme shall be required to undertake a course on Research Methodology and such other courses as directed by the concerned Dean in consultation with the supervisor. The research scholar will have to qualify in the courses as per the University examination rules.

The research methodology course will be residential and will span to about six months. A scholar failing to qualify in the research methodology course will be given another chance to appear in the examination. However, no scholar will be given more than two chances to qualify in the research methodology course. If a scholar fails to qualify even in the second attempt, his/her admission will be cancelled.

- (iv) The research scholar will finalize a detailed proposal of his/her research work and will submit the same to the Dean, after the scholar has qualified in the research methodology Course.
- (v) The Scholar will have to make a presentation of his research proposal detailed before of the research board.
- (vi) The Board may accept the proposal as such, may suggest some modifications or may reject the research proposal. On the acceptance of the research proposal by the Board, the admission and enrollment of the scholar shall stand confirmed.
- (vii) In case the Board rejects the research proposal, the scholar's provisional enrollment and admission will be cancelled. He/she will not be entitled to any refund of fees.
- (viii) After the approval of the research proposal of the scholar, the Board will suggest a Supervisor to guide the scholar in his/her research work. The Board may recommend the appointment of a joint supervisor also.

The supervisor and joint supervisor, if any, recommended by the Board shall be subject to the approval of the Vice Chancellor.

A Faculty member, who is no more in the services of the University, will cease to be the supervisor/joint supervisor, with immediate effect and the University will appoint alternate supervisor/joint supervisor in his/her place.

- (ix) Such Supervisor may be a Faculty member having Doctorate Degree in the subject concerned and 5-years' teaching experience, a Visiting/Emeritus Professor having experience of guiding research or a distinguished academician/ professional.
- (x) In exceptional cases if the Board considers it feasible and proper, a distinguished academician/professional may be assigned, with the previous consent of the Scholar, to act as a Joint Supervisor for the work of the research scholar even though he/she may not be a teacher of the University.
- (xi) The research scholar may not later than six months after his final enrollment modify the scheme of his/her research with the approval of the concerned Board of Research Studies.

Part –II: Time Span for Research

5. The time span for research shall be as under (the period will be counted from the date of provisional enrollment) :-

- (i) The minimum period for submission of the thesis shall be two years. The maximum period shall be four years.
- (ii) In case, the scholar is not able to submit thesis within the prescribed time limit, he/she may apply for extension of the period to the Vice-Chancellor, through the Supervisor and Dean of the Faculty. The Vice-Chancellor may grant an extension to a maximum period of two years.
- (iii) In case the scholar is not able to submit the thesis within the prescribed or the extended period, his/her enrollment as a scholar will be cancelled.
- (iv) Every Research Scholar has to submit his/her though Supervisor semester-wise progress report to the Dean of the Faculty.

- (v) In case the Supervisor or the Board of Research Studies feels that the progress during the semester is unsatisfactory, that semester may not be counted for the purpose of duration of pursuing the research in the respective discipline.
- (vi) No research scholar shall join any other courses of study or appear at any other examination conducted by the University or a public body.

Part III: Submission of Ph. D. Thesis

6. (i) On a report from the Supervisor that the thesis is likely to be submitted within six months, the Dean of the Faculty shall convene a meeting of the Board of Research Studies for finalizing the panel of names of external examiners.
 - (i) The Supervisor shall forward a panel of 8 (eight) external examiners, who are competent to evaluate the thesis, with full particulars of each (Professors/ Research Professors working or retired will be preferred).
 - (ii) The Board of Research Studies after satisfying itself with the competence of the 8 examiners to evaluate the research work shall forward the same to the Vice Chancellor. The Board may modify the panel of examiners submitted by the Supervisor.
 - (iii) The Vice Chancellor shall appoint two external examiners after considering the list submitted by the Board of Research Studies. At least one of the two external examiners shall be affiliated to an institute situated outside the state of Rajasthan. The Vice-Chancellor may appoint examiners outside the panel recommended by the Board of Research Studies. The supervisor/joint supervisor will be third examiner.
 - (iv) The research scholar shall submit through the supervisor, at least two months in advance of the submission of the thesis, 4 copies of the abstract of the thesis to the University. The abstract will be sent to the external examiners along with the request to accept the work of evaluation.

- (v) Prior to the submission of the thesis, the research scholar shall make a pre-submission presentation in the University that will be open to all faculty members and research students for getting feedback and comments, which may suitably be incorporated into draft thesis under the advice of the supervisor.
- (vi) The research scholar shall publish one research paper in a refereed journal before submission of thesis for adjudication, and produce evidence for same in the form of an acceptance letter or the reprint.
- (vii) The Research Scholar shall submit his thesis within a period of six months of the appointment of examiners. The Vice-Chancellor may, on the recommendation of the supervisor, grant an extension up to a maximum period of six months.
- (viii) The research scholar shall not be permitted to submit his/her thesis for the degree unless the Supervisor is not satisfied that the thesis is worthy of consideration for the award of degree of Doctor of Philosophy.
- (ix) The Supervisor shall forward the thesis of the scholar with the following certificate -
 - (a) That this research work has not been carried out earlier in its present shape.
 - (b) That this research work is original based on doctrinal/ empirical/ factual/ experimental/survey/ study or an analysis/ evaluation of existing facts or principles.
 - (c) That the scholar has fulfilled the residential requirements as per the rules.

Such a certificate has to be countersigned by the Dean of the Faculty concerned.
- (x) The research scholar shall supply four printed or typed copies of his/her thesis to the Examination section of the University. The research scholar shall also simultaneously submit a soft copy of the thesis in the form of a CD.
- (xi) The research scholar may incorporate in his thesis the contents of any work which he may have published on

Part IV: Evaluation Process

7. (i) Ordinarily, a period of three months shall be given to the examiners for evaluating the thesis. If the report of any examiner is not received within a reasonable period, steps may be taken by the Vice Chancellor to appoint another examiner.
- (ii) The examiners shall be free to consult each other in regard to clarifications on the structure, sources of data and some other general issues and also shall have the right to get clarifications from the Supervisor / Joint Supervisor as the case may be.
- (iii) The examiners will examine that the thesis complies with the requirements that it is a piece of research work characterized by the discovery of new facts or by a fresh interpretation of facts and theories and is the original work of the research scholar evidencing the research scholar's capacity of critical examination and judgment. The thesis should be in the form of a literary presentation.
- (iv) The examiner in the assessment shall be required to express his/her categorical opinion on the following points:
 - (a) That the thesis is an original piece of research work and the contribution to knowledge either from the point of the discovery of new facts or the interpretation of existing facts or both;
 - (b) That the research scholar has given proof of consistent thinking and of critical approach to the problem enunciated by him/her;
 - (c) That the thesis is satisfactory so far as its literary presentation is concerned.
- (v) The examiner shall make a clear recommendation that:
 - (a) The thesis be accepted for the Ph.D. degree; or
 - (b) The thesis be rejected; or
 - (c) The research scholar be allowed to present his thesis in a revised form.

The report shall include the grounds on which the recommendation is based.

The examiner may also indicate questions to be asked from the research scholar during the public defense.

- (vi) The examiner shall send the report to the University in a prescribed form together with such additional observations, as she/he deems necessary. When all the reports have been received, they shall be placed before the Vice Chancellor for further directions based on the recommendations of the examiners.
- (vii) If all the examiners recommend the award of the degree, the Vice-Chancellor will order for holding a public defense of the thesis by the research scholar.
- (viii) If all the external examiners recommend a rejection of the thesis, the Vice-Chancellor shall order for the rejection of the thesis. The enrollment of the research scholar for the Ph. D. shall automatically lapse.
- (ix) If the reports of the examiner are not unanimous, the Vice-Chancellor may
 1. Decide to refer the thesis to a fourth examiner for his/her opinion. In such cases, relevant extracts from the reports of the original external examiners will be sent to the fourth examiner without disclosing the names of the examiners. The recommendations of the fourth examiner shall be final.
 2. If both the external examiners are in favour of allowing for the re-submission of the thesis in a revised form, the research scholar may be directed to re-submit a revised version of his/her thesis not earlier than six month and not later than two years from the date of such a decision. The research scholar shall be supplied extracts of the examiners' reports indicating the line on which the thesis is to be revised.

The thesis so resubmitted shall be sent to the same panel of examiners who evaluated the original thesis, unless one or more of them express their inability to

evaluate the thesis. In that case the thesis shall be sent to other examiners.

- (x) No research scholar shall be allowed to resubmit the thesis more than once.

Part V: Defense of the Thesis:

- 8. (i) As and when the Vice-Chancellor so decides, the research scholar shall have to defend the thesis in front of a Board of Examiners and faculty members. The Supervisor or Joint Supervisor and one of the external examiners will constitute the Board of examiners. The Board of Examiners shall be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor.
- (ii) The University may allow the informed public to participate in the defense of the thesis but they shall not have a right to ask questions.
- (iii) The examiners and the members of the faculty present in the defense only shall have the right to ask questions during the defense of the thesis by the research scholar.
- (iv) If the Board of Examiners is satisfied with the performance of the research scholar, it shall recommend the award of the degree of Ph. D. to the research scholar.
- (v) If the research scholar's performance is judged to be unsatisfactory by the Board of examiners, it may either give the research scholar a second chance for the defense after a gap of at least six months or may recommend a rejection of the thesis. No research scholar shall be given more than one chance to re-defend his/her thesis.
- (vi) The reports of the examiners and that of the Board of examiners for the defense shall be submitted to the respective Board of Research Studies for consideration. The recommendation of the Board shall be submitted to the Vice Chancellor for his consideration, who shall pass orders for granting provisional degree, subject to the approval of the Academic Council, the Executive Council and General Council, whose decision shall be final for awarding the degree.

- (vii) On a written request from the Research Scholar or the supervisor copies of reports of the examiners shall be supplied to the Research Scholar/ supervisor after the degree has been awarded on the understanding that the report shall not be published or quoted in any form.

Part VI – Fees and remuneration

9. (i) The fee-structure for the Ph. D. programme will be as follows:

a. Admission fees at the time of provisional admission	Rs. 5000/-
b. Semester fees (per semester)	Rs. 25,000/-
d. Examination fees:	Rs. 30,000/-

The semester fees will be charged for the entire period of enrollment of the research scholar i.e. up to the date of the submission of the thesis.

Hostel charges, internet charges, caution money and other charges, if any, will be charged as per the University rules.

- (ii) The Vice-Chancellor may waive up to 75% of the Semester fees for the Ph. D. candidates who are participating in the teaching Programmes/ administration of the University.
- (iii) The remuneration for reading the thesis and conducting the viva-voce examinations shall be follows:-
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|---------------------------|------------|
| a) For reading the thesis | Rs. 2000/- |
| b) For public defense | Rs. 1000/- |

Part VII - Saving Clause

10. Notwithstanding anything contained in these regulations, the decision of the Vice-Chancellor shall be final on any matter not specified above but relates to administration the Ph. D. programme.