NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

PROSPECTUS

2024–2025 AND ONWARDS

FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DESK

Welcome to Netaji Subhas Open University.

In the year 2017 UGC-DEB granted permission to offer Ph.D. programmes to Netaji Subhas Open University by UGC vide their Memo No.F.No.2-1/2017 (DEB-III/DEB-IV) dated 19 May 2017.

"The Netaji Subhas Open University, Ph.D. Regulations, 2023" has been framed in compliance with the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedures of Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022.

As one of India's leading Open Universities we regard research students as a particularly important part of our academic community. The objective of the programme is to give an opportunity to pursue research degree programme in discipline specific areas.

We are fully committed to the education and training of our research students so that they produce high quality research and further develop their skills. Each Faculty is responsible for respective learners of this University, ensures that arrangements are in place to support each student's progress through his or her research degree. This Handbook for Research Students contains a wealth of information about the nature and level of support you may expect to receive during your study. You are strongly encouraged to use it, and use the University's facilities, advice and support services during your studies to cultivate your research programme. I wish you the best success with your studies.

Professor Indrajit Lahiri
Vice-Chancellor
Netaji Subhas Open University

Netaji Subhas open University
DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700064
Official Website : www.wbnsou.ac.in

Memo No. Reg/0886 Date:- 25.07.2025

NOTIFICATION

Disclaimer :

Students will have to abide by the Netaji Subhas Open University, Ph.D. Regulations, 2023 relating to award of Ph.D. degree and the UGC notification vide memo no. F. 4-1 (UGC-NET review committee)/2024 (net)/140648, dated 27th March, 2024.

The University reserves the right to alter, variate, amend, repeal and interpret any of the regulations related to Ph.D. programme.

Mere submission of admission form and causing appearance in Netaji Subhas Open University Viva-Voce for admission does not confer any right of admission to the Ph.D. programme unless found suitable by the University authority in accordance with the eligibility criteria which may be altered, amended and/or variated from time to time in the event, such action is felt necessary by the University authority.

If it is found during the period of validity of Ph.D. registration that the student admitted was not eligible for admission to that Programme, registration shall stand cancelled, at the discretion of the University authority.

The University authority reserves the right to fix or reschedule any academic activiities related to the Ph.D. programme with prior notice to the students through University website and/or may employ any other mode which the University Authority may feel convenient in its discretion.

Jurisdiction of Court of Law :

All dispute, related to Netaji Subhas Open University, Ph.D. Regulations, 2023 including its amendment from time to time governing any academic activity related to Ph.D. programme and other related matters, shall be resolved within the jurisdiction in the High Court at Calcutta.

Sd/-
Registrar (Add'l Charge),
NSOU

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1. ABOUT NSOU

Netaji Subhas Open University is the premier State Open University in India. The year 1997 was the birth centenary year of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The then Chief Minister of West Bengal made an announcement at a State function that an Open University would be set up soon and dedicated to Netaji's hallowed memory. The then Higher Education Minister, Govt. of West Bengal spearheaded the idea after his visit to the Open University in U.K. Under his instruction was set up a ten-member steering committee headed by late Dr. Bhaskar Ray Chowdhury, former Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta University. Subsequently, Netaji Subhas Open University was established through WB Act of XIX of 1997. Currently the University has six Schools of Studies viz. School of Humanities, School of Social Sciences, School of Sciences, School of Education, School of Professional Studies and School of Vocational Studies. The Netaji Subhas Open University, the State Open University for Open and Distance Learning, with UGC-DEB, AICT and RCI recognition, and provides seamless access to sustainable and learner-centric quality education, skill upgradation and training to all by using innovative technologies and methodologies and ensuring convergence of existing systems for large-scale human resource development, required for promoting national development.

The University is committed to quality in teching, research, training and extension activities, and acts as a State Open University for expertise and infrastructure in the ODL system. The University has established multiple Centre for Innovation in Distance Education, to focus on specific learner groups and enrich the distance learning system.

Netaji Subhas Open University started function from July 1998. In 2020, Netaji Subhas Open University has been accredited with Grade "A" by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC).

As a State Open University, NSOU has the rare credit of enrolling near about 4.75 lakhs learners in different programmes across a wide spectrum of academic disciplines, both in conventional and non-conventional programmes.

2. VISION & MISSION

Vision :

The NSOU, the only State Open University in West Bengal, delivers to build up the quality human resource base of the State and, along with other Open Universities of the country, and moves towards the improvement of the quality of open distance education. It also intends to promote and develop appropriate ambience to develop an international standard distance education scenario in our country, keeping in view of the demands for education of the learners in tune with the requirements of the twenty-first century.

Mission :

- ✓ To propagate quality education in flexible mode all over the State and to provide access to different skills- enhancing educational programmes.
- ✓ To collaborate with other Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) for academic and research endeavours.
- ✓ To provide education in the vernacular language, i.e., Bengali and making it available at low cost to the underprivileged people.
- ✓ To provide facility of life long education to the intending learners.
- ✓ To integrate technological tools in the pedagogy for facilitating the learning experiences.
- ✓ To contribute to the existing body of knowledge through research and extension activities.
- ✓ To render services for the development of the State in particular and the Nation in general in order to sensitize the learners towards a humanistic and democratic ecosystem.

3. RESEARCH POLICY

The Research Policy has been enunciated to guide the future of research in the University. A principal objective of NSOU's research project has been to maintain a strong focus on the flow of theoretical ideas and to connect it with the empirical works of subject oriented researches in social sciences, humanities, commerce & management, sciences and other disciplines offered by the University as areas of probe and investigation from time to time.

A research project is an opportunity to learn more about a particular subject. Through this process one can enhance and demonstrate a wide range of skills that are applicable to our real life. As a researcher, it is important to use a wide variety of sources and to evaluate the quality and validity of those sources. The purpose of research is to add knowledge. Thus, the study should seek to contextualize its findings within the larger body of research. Research project should add knowledge that is applicable outside the organization and society as whole. Above all, the results of the study should have implications for policy and project implementation.

Taking into considerations the importance, the University encourages its faculty members to carry out research projects in different subjects and provides financial assistance subject to availability of fund from government/ research institutions viz. MHRD, UGC-DEB, ICSSR, CSIR, DST, RCI, CIIL, IIAS, CSSS, CSGS etc. for their projects. The ambit of project work in the University has been expanded to include both theoretical and empirical research in various academic disciplines (core subjects). Interdisciplinary areas with blending approach of ODL methodology may also be accepted.

4. INTRODUCTION

Research is considered as the highest level of academic activity of any higher education institute (HEI). The aim of the research is to create new and original knowledge in the different fields of higher studies either through discovering new facts or by interpreting the existing available data in a fresh and innovative ways or it could also be a combination of these two means. It always aims to contribute new knowledge, facts and interpretation in the expanding domain of knowledge.

The Ph.D. programme of Netaji Subhas Open University conforms the Netaji Subhas Open University (NSOU) Ph.D. Regulations 2023 relating to award of Ph.D. degree and conducted with the approval of UGC (vide F. No.: 2-1/2017(DEB-III/DEB-IV); dated: 19th May, 2017).

The Ph.D. Programme of Netaji Subhas Open University is the highest degree offered by the University. The Programme follows all the rules and regulations framed time to time by the statutory authorities like UGC to ensure the quality of research. The University always practices the best possible means to follow the UGC Regulations in this regard. The registered students at NSOU shall have to follow strictly the procedure prescribed in the Ph.D. Prospectus and NSOU Ph.D. Regulation 2023.

The Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) shall be awarded to a candidate on the basis of original research work of merit incorporated in a thesis, recommended by a board of examiners and successfully defended by the candidate during a Viva-Voce.

Doctoral Programme leading to the degree of Ph.D. shall be offered in the following subjects in the five Schools of Studies of the University.

Sl. No.	Name of School	Subjects	
		Non Lab based	Lab based
1	School of Sciences	Mathematics	Chemistry, Geography, Physics, Zoology, Botany and Environmental Science (PHDES)
2	School of Humanities	Bengali, English and English Language Teaching	NA
3	School of Social Sciences	History, Political Science and Sociology	NA
4	School of Professional Studies	Commerce, Library & Information Science and Social Work	NA
5	School of Education	Education	NA

The thesis shall demonstrate that the candidate has analytical and cogent argumentative skills, innovative thoughts and technical mastery in the chosen field of investigation and is capable of doing original research work. The result of research embodies in the thesis shall be a contribution of existing knowledge either by a discovery of new facts or by a discovery of some new relations between facts already known, or by a critical survey of facts/ issues leading to a new interpretation. The thesis is to be ordinarily written in English. If a candidate desires to submit the same in Bengali or any other language, prior approval (for Subject Bengali prior approval is not required) of Research Advisory Committee is required.

5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

A 1-year/2-semester master's degree programme after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme or a 2-year/4-semester master's degree programme after a 3-year bachelor's degree programme or equivalent with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale.

Provided candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed.

OR

Candidates who have completed the M.Phil. programme with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale [Kind attention to UGC notice vide Memo No. F.9-83/2023(PS/Misc.), dt. 26.12.2023].

And

Candidates who have qualified in the UGC-NET or UGC-CSIR NET under different categories (eligible for admission to Ph.D. with JRF and appointment as Assistant Professor/ eligible for admission to Ph.D. without JRF and appointment as Assistant Professor/ eligible for admission to Ph.D. only within period of validity)/ SET/ SLET/ GATE as per the UGC notification vide memo no. F.4-1 (UGC-NET review committee)/2024(net)/140648, dated: 27th March, 2024.

6. RESERVATION & MARKS RELAXATION

A relaxation of 5% of marks, from 55% to 50% or an equivalent relaxation of grade may be allowed for those candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/ Differently Abled and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the University Grants Commission from time to time. 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.

Reservation as per Govt. Rules, and relevant Court Orders in this regard will be applicable.

7. DURATION

Ph.D. programme shall be for a minimum duration of three (3) years and for a maximum period of six (6) years, including the course work from the date of Admission to the Ph.D. programme of the University.

The registration for the Ph.D. Degree remain valid for a period of six years including the course work from the dated of admission.

8. EXTENSION

A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration as per the decision taken in RAC; provided, however, that the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme will not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

Provided further that, female Ph.D. scholars and persons with disabilities (having more than 40% disability) may be allowed an additional relaxation of two (2) years; however, the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme in such cases should not exceed ten (10) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

Female Ph.D. scholars may be provided maternity Leave/Child Care Leave for up to 240 days in the entire duration of the Ph.D. programme but in no cases the duration would exceed ten (10) years.

After the expiry of the registration period including extension period, if any, the registration will be treated as cancelled with the approval of the RAC.

9. FEES STRUCTURE

Sl. No.	Purpose	Fees (Rs.)
1.	Cost of Prospectus	500/-
2.	Course Work fee (after selection)	5,000/-
3.	Enrollment Registration fee (after completion of Course Work)	2,000/-
4.	Non-lab based subjects for first three years payable at the time of admission	21,000/-
5.	Lab based subjects for first three years payable at the time of admission	30,000/-

Sl. No.	Purpose	Fees (Rs.)
6.	After three years within the validity of registration period for non-lab based subjects	7,000/- per year
7.	After three years within the validity of registration period for lab based subjects	10,000/- per year
8.	Submission of thesis	7,000/-
9.	Issuance of duplicate Provisional Enrollment Certificate/ Ph.D. Registration Certificate/ Provisional Ph.D Certificate/ Ph.D awarded Certificate	500/-

10. ACADEMIC YEAR

Every academic year admission to Ph.D. programme is done in January session only.

11. ADMISSION PROCEDURES

After notification of vacancy in official website and newspaper by the University applicants have to apply as advised.

After screening of applications, eligible applicants may be called to appear before Netaji Subhas Open University Viva-Voce/Interview only.

A relaxation of 5% marks will be allowed for the candidates belonging to SC/ ST/OBC/differently-abled category and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission for time to time.

University may decide the number of eligible students to be called for an interview based on the number of Ph.D. seats available. Decision of the Unviersity will be final in this regard.

At interview/viva-voce for shortlisted candidates have to discuss their research interest/area before the Departmental Research Committee (DRC). Candidate should attend the interview along with a Research Proposal (hard copy and soft copy) which shall be of about 1000 (maximum 300 word per page) words, containing the proposed title, significance and scope of the topic, rational justification, national-international status, theory and research methodology/techniques involved, references, bibliography.

The DRC will consider the following aspects viz. whether

1. The candidate possesses the competence for the proposed research;
2. The research work can be suitably undertaken by various School of Studies as mentioned earlier;
3. The proposed area of research can contribute to new/additional knowledge.

List of successful candidates in the interview/viva-voce may be published in the University official website. Provisional Registration Certificate will be issued stating his/her name, subject for his/her Ph.D. programme, date of admission having validity of one year from the date of admission.

12. ADMISSION OF FOREIGN CANDIDATE

Foreign applicant (applicants holding passports of countries other than India, including people of Indian origin who have acquired the nationality of a foreign country, are considered foreign or international applicants) should have equivalent eligibility (eligibility criteria as detailed in the Sl. No. 5) grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent quatification from a foreign educational 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. Programmes under Regular Mode as per vide F. No. 2-1/2017 (DEB-III/DEB-IV) on 19.05.2017, UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022 and NSOU, Ph.D. Regulations 2023.

Foreign applicant should have valid foreign Passport and Permission of Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India.

Application Submission : Scanned copy of all relevant testimonials along with duly filled out application form (available in admission website), a Statement of Purpose and/or Research Proposal (within 3000 words) must be forwarded through email (phd@wbnsou.ac.in).

Selection Procedure : After basic screening of application (received through email), candidate may be called for interview (online) on the basis of (a) Statement of Purpose and/or Research Proposal (within 3000 words) and (b) letters of recommendations as received from the referees, applicant may be called for the Interview which may be conducted by the Departmental Research Committee (DRC).

After which, and satisfactory performance in the interview conducted by the Departmental Research Committee (DRC) of Netaji Subhas Open University candidate may be provisionally selected to get admission in the Ph.D. programme.

Document to be Produced: Foreign Candidates have to produce the following documents in original (along with all documents related to educational qualification) at the time of admission (after selection procedure as mentioned above) failing which the admission may be cancelled:

a) Permission of ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India.
b) Valid foreign passport.
c) Financial undertaking.
d) Migration/Transfer Certificate.
e) Valid Student Visa mentioning the programme name (e.g. Ph.D. in Bengali) and name of "Netaji Subhas Open University".
f) Attestation of all educational documents by Indian High Commission.
g) Any other document(s), if any required, by the authority at the time of admission.

13. COURSE WORK

All candidates admitted to Ph.D. programmes after successful completion of NSOU-interview/viva voce, require to complete the Course Work during the semester of six-month duration as prescribed by the DRC concerned which is prerequisite for Ph.D. preparation.

However, candidates holding M.Phil. degree compliant with the UGC (minimum standards and procedures of award of M.Phil./Ph.D. degrees) Regulations, 2022 and admitted to the Ph.D. programme, may be exempted from doing the Course Work with the approval of RAC based on the recommendation of DRC concerned.

Further, candidates who have successfully completed Ph.D. Course Work from other HEIs recognized by the UGC may be exempted from doing the Course Work after ratification of the same by the RAC subsequent up on the recommendation of the DRC concerned.

All other candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be required to complete the Course Work prescribed by the DRC concerned.

The Department where the Research Student pursues his/her research shall prescribe the course(s) to him/her based on the recommendations of the DRC.

The Ph.D. Course Work will be minimum of 12 credits, including a "Research and Publication Ethics" course as notified by UGC vide D.O. No. F.1-1/2018(Journal/CARE) in 2019 and a Research Methodology course.

The Course Work shall be treated as a prerequisite for Ph.D. preparation. Course 1 [Four (4) credits] shall be based on and assigned to one or more courses on Research Methodology which would cover areas such as quantitative methods, computer applications, etc. Two (2) credits will be based on research and publication ethics as prescribed by UGC. Course 2 shall be assigned to advance level courses for preparing the students for Ph.D. degree in specific discipline.

Course Work structure at a glance :

Paper	Course	Credit	% of Marks
Course 1	Group A-Research Methodology & Review of Literature	4	70
	Group B-Research and Publication Ethics as prescribed by UGC	2	30
Course 2	Discipline Specific Course	6	100

The pass marks for each course/paper will be 50% of the marks allotted for the course/paper. The candidate has to pass in all the course/papers and has to obtain a total of minimum 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in the UGC-10-point scale to be eligible to continue in the programme and submit his or her thesis.

All Ph.D. scholars, irrespective of discipline, shall be required to train in teaching/education/pedagogy/writing related to their chosen Ph.D. subject during their doctoral period. Ph.D. scholars may also be assigned 4-6 hours per week of teaching/ research assistantship for conducting tutorial or laboratory work and evaluations.

14. EVALUATION OF COURSE WORK

The evaluation of the students shall be based on their performances in the review work/dissertation/written and other continuous/internal evaluation, if any, as recommended by the DRC concerned.

In order to qualify the Course Work, a candidate shall have to obtain the pass marks for each course/paper which will be 50% of the total marks allotted for the course/paper. The candidate has to pass in all the course/papers and has to obtain a total of minimum 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in the UGC 10-point scale to be eligible to continue in the programme and submit his or her thesis failing which the candidate shall be given one consecutive additional chance to appear in the next term of evaluation.

All modalities for evaluation of course work will be as per Netaji Subhas Open University, Ph.D. Regulations, 2023 relating to award of Ph.D. degree.

15. REGISTRATION TO PH.D.

On successful completion of course work the list of successful candidates duly recommended by the DRC will be published in the University website on approval of RAC. The successful candidates will be allotted Supervisor(s) by the respective DRCs. Thereafter the candidates will have to apply for registration.

On acceptance of application by RAC the students will have to pay requisite registration fee upon which students will be issued a Registration Certificate by the University.

Note :

List will be published separately for candidates holding M.Phil. degree [prior to UGC notice vide Memo No. F.9–83/2023 (PS/Misc.), dt. 26.12.2023] and having successfully completed Ph.D. Course Work (as mentioned in "Course Work" section) and are exempted from Course Work by the RAC. They also have to apply for registration as stated above.

READ BEFORE REGISTRATION TO PH.D.:

- In case of failure to complete all modalities related to admission within the prescribed time, the application shall be deemed to have been cancelled.

- A provisionally enrolled Ph.D. student is required to complete his/her Ph.D. registration within one month from the date of publication of his/her name in the website for registration, failing which his/her admission in the Ph.D. programme shall automatically stand cancelled.
- The candidate may apply to the Registrar for cancellation of registration stating reason, forwarded by the Supervisor(s) and must be placed for record at the meeting of the DRC. If approved, the candidate's registration will be cancelled.
- The University may maintain a list of all Ph.D. registered students in its website on year-wise basis. The list will include the name of the registered candidate, topic of his/her research, name of his/her supervisor/co-supervisor, date of enrollment/ registration and validity date of registration.

16. SUPERVISOR

Only permanent faculty members working as Professor/Associate Professor of Netaji Subhas Open University with a Ph.D., and having at least five reasearch Publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals and permanent faculty members working as Assistant Professors at Netaji Subhas Open University with a Ph.D., and at least three research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals may be recognized as a Research Supervisor in the University.

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

Such recognized research supervisors cannot supervise research scholars in other institutions, where they can only act as co-supervisors. Ph.D. awarded by the University under the supervision of a faculty member who is not an employee of this University would be in violation of Netaji Subhas Open University, Ph.D. Regulations, 2023.

At any given point of time a Research Supervisor and/ Co-Supervisor if any, belonging to the rank of Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor cannot guide more than Eight (8), Six (6) and Four (4) Ph.D. students respectively.

Faculty members / scientist of the equivalent rank of Professor / Associate Professor / Assistant Professor working in other HEIs / Central Government / State Government research institutions can be recognized as a Co-Supervisor if they fulfil above requirements.

Co-Supervisors from within the same department or other departments of the University or from other Institutions may be permitted with the approval of the RAC.

Adjunct Faculty members will not act as Research Supervisors and can only act as Co-Supervisors.

Faculty members with less than three years of service before superannuation

shall not be allowed to take new research scholars under their supervision. However, such faculty members can continue to supervise Ph.D. scholars who are already registered until superannuation and act as a Co-Supervisor after superannuation, but not after attaining the age of 70 years.

Other modalities for allocation of Research Supervisor or Co-Supervisors for a selected Ph.D. student will be decided by the DRC of the respective Schools as Netaji Subhas Open University, Ph.D. Regulations, 2023 relating to award of Ph.D. degree.

17. SOME IMPORTANT RULES

Change of Supervisor: If after enrollment, a change of Supervisor or of Joint Supervisor or of both is considered necessary, the candidate may apply to the DRC through the proposed supervisor(s) for the purpose, and with the concurrence of the previous supervisor(s). Ph.D.-RAC will forward such applications along with the recommendations to RAC for approval.

Reconsideration of Synopsis: If the RAC does not consider a Synopsis as fit for recommendation, it shall again be examined by the Ph.D.-RAC ordinarily within three months. The report of the Ph.D.-RAC will be placed for RAC for recommendation.

Modification/Change of Title: The title of the thesis and the synopsis may be modified, if necessary, by the student and duly forwarded by the Supervisor with due concurrence of the Ph.D.-RAC and with approval of the chairperson of RAC. However, such modification may be permitted within one year of Registration.

Change of Language: Normally the language of the thesis shall be English (except Ph.D. programme in Bengali) unless the RAC allowed to use language other than English on the request of the Ph.D. student.

Change of Topic/ Research Area/ Theme/ Subject: No change in topic (keeping research area, theme or subject unchanged) will be permitted after six months of the registration. However, in exceptional cases, RAC may allow the change in topic after six months. In case of major change, such as research area, theme or subject the candidate will need to go through the process of admission afresh.

18. CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION

Beside the instance mentioned in the "REGISTRATION TO PH.D." section, Ph.D. registration of a Student is liable to be cancelled for any of the following reasons on the recommendation of RAC:

- Non-payment of any fees as and when ever notified by the University.
- Non-commencement of research work till the completion of 2 years years after final registration.

- Consistent lack of progress in research as observed by Ph.D.-RAC on the basis of report submitted by the research Supervisor of the Student.
- Violation of discipline, conduct and rules of the Department / School/ University.
- Non-submission of the thesis within the completion of maximum 06 years of registration without any notice.
- Giving any false information at the time of application/ admission/ registration, which can adversely effect on the validity of the Student or his/her research work.

A letter of final notice to the Student will be issued in occurrence of any of the above reasons and total 30 working days may be given to the Student for defending his/her case in person in front of RAC, failing which the University is free to take decision and action on its own cognizance and may cancel his/her registration for Ph.D. Programme permanently.

19. REVIEW OF PROGRESS

Students have to appear before the Ph.D.-RAC once in six months to make a presentation of the progress of his/her work for evaluation and further guidance after registration.

The presentation should include an elaborate description of the reading, writing, data collection or any other work done in relation to the research. The student can also mention difficulties encountered, if any.

Ph.D.-RAC will submit progress report, in prescribed proforma (available on the website), half yearly to RAC mentioning in unambiguous terms whether the progress is satisfactory or not and whether the work done during the period under consideration is relevant and adequate or not.

Only after the approval of RAC regarding the satisfactory progress of the work, the Student may be allowed to continue his/her research in the next term.

In case the progress of the research student is unsatisfactory, the Ph.D.-RAC will record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. If the research student fails to implement these corrective measures not in exceeding three months, the Ph.D.-RAC may recommend the same to next meeting of RAC with specific reasons for cancellation of the registration of the student.

20. SUBMISSION OF DRAFT THESIS

Upon satisfactory completion of Course Work and obtaining the marks/ grade, a Ph.D. student can submit the Draft Thesis after two and a half years since admission and must submit within five and a half year maximum from date of admission. A Draft Thesis is viewed as a mini version of the thesis. It includes a clear idea about what the thesis is.

Guidelines for preparing Draft Thesis are given below:

Title: The title of the Ph.D.

Review of Literature: Brief review of the literature pertaining to the area of research subject/study question and the methodology planned to be followed.

Objective(s): a) Objectives of the study- should relate to the research question; b) there may be 'General' and 'Specific' objective(s).

Materials and Methods: Study setting, Time lines, Definition of problem, Definition of population, Study variables, Inclusion/ Exclusion criteria, Sample size, Sampling design, Control required or not, Collection of data, Experiment design, Laboratory investigations, Parameters and the procedures, Definition of outcomes, Schedule of data collection, Statistical analysis plan, any other issues relevant to research work. [All the points mentioned above may not be applicable in a particular research work]

If there are any ethical issues involved, mention them and state how you intend to overcome.

Time Schedule:

Resource Required & Source: Human resource, materials, financial resources required and sources.

Text of the Thesis:

Results and Discussion: Result along the discussion should be sufficient to be evaluated by the DRC to justify the thesis work.

References: Give few references pertaining to the information quoted in the protocol. Follow appropriate guidelines for writing references.

Note :

The student has to forward six copies of the Draft Thesis preferably within 5000 words through the Supervisor to the RAC. The student will be informed by the University to make a Pre-submission presentation before the Ph.D.-RAC concerned which will also be opened to all faculty members and other research students, the feedback and comments obtained from them may suitably be incorporated into the draft thesis in consultation with the Ph.D.-RAC within a period as specified by the RAC.

21. PREPARATION OF THE THESIS

After getting affirmation from University end, students may be allowed to submit his/her thesis. The Student have to follow all the instructions as and when notified by the University in this regard.

22. SUBMISSION OF THE THESIS

While submitting for evaluation, the thesis shall incorporate an anti-plagiarism report based on a software procured and approved by the University and shall contain an undertaking from Ph.D. student as well as a certificate from the research supervisor and co-supervisor (if any) attesting the originality of the work, vouching that there is not more than 10% of plagiarism (excluding the bibliography and works already published elsewhere by the Ph.D. student), and that the work has not been submitted for the award of any other degree/diploma of the same Institution where the work was carried out, or to any other Institution. The Ph.D.-RAC will decide the mechanism to detect plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty for thesis for which anti-plagiarism software is not available. For such subjects, an affidavit by the Ph.D. student and a certificate from the research supervisor and co-supervisor (if any) attesting the originality of the work have to be submitted before the Ph.D.-RAC.

After completing the thesis and having complied with all other requirements under these regulations, herein above, the Ph.D. student shall submit the thesis for adjudication, along with a certificate from the supervisor and co-supervisor (if any) and recommendation of Ph.D.-RAC. The candidate shall submit five (5) copies of Ph.D. thesis, embodying the results of his/her research and enclosing evidence of originality of research work and non-plagiarism as certified by the supervisor(s).

At the time of thesis submission, the candidate shall also submit ten copies of the abstract (within one thousand words) of the thesis, and two CDs/Pen drive containing the entire thesis as a pdf along with the article(s) published and the papers presented in conference(s).

All fees recommended by the RAC on recommendation of DRC/Ph.D.-RAC/ Registrar, as may be prescribed from time to time, for submission of the thesis, shall be deposited by the scholar.

23. EVALUATION OF THESIS

The Ph.D. thesis submitted by a Ph.D. student will be evaluated by his/her Research Supervisor and at least two external examiners who are experts in the field and not in employment of this University. One of the external examiners will be from outside the State of West Bengal. Wherever possible, one of the external examiners will be chosen from outside India.

Along with his/her thesis every candidate shall submit clearance certificates issued by the Finance Department, the University Library and School/Department and such other documents as may be specified by the Registrar/Joint Registrar (Academic). Incumbent concerned is required to submit the prescribed non-refundable fees along with thesis submitted.

The candidate shall also be required to bear the postal charges for dispatching the thesis to the examiners as soon as this is intimated to him/her.

24. VIVA-VOCE

The open Viva-Voce of the research Ph.D. student to defend the thesis may be conducted only if the evaluation reports of all the examiners on the thesis are positive.

Student have to appear before an open Viva-Voce examination and which will be notified Fifteen (15) days before the examination.

If the student fails to satisfy the examiners at the Viva-Voce, the student may be allowed by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor to appear again at a Viva-Voce after a period of three (3) months from the date of the first Viva-Voce.

The entire process of evaluation of Ph.D. thesis will be done generally within a period of six months from the date of submission of the thesis.

All other modalities for Viva-Voce will be as per Netaji Subhas Open University (NSOU) Ph.D. Regulations 2023 relating to award of Ph.D. degree.

25. AWARD OF THE DEGREE

The degree will be awarded by this University if the examiners of the Viva-Voce examination are of the opinion that the candidate is eligible to receive the degree.

A certificate under the seal of the University and signed by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor will be given to each successful candidate at the next annual Convocation of the University.

In case a candidate is not awarded the Degree on the basis of reports of the adjudicators or of the Viva-Voce examiners, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor on the recommendation of the RAC concerned, may permit the candidate to re-submit the thesis after necessary corrections or modifications after six months but within two years from the date on payment of usual fee for submission.

A copy of the thesis accepted for the Degree of Philosophy, with necessary corrections or modifications, if there be any, will be retained in the University Library.

26. REPOSITORY WITH INFLIBNET

Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and before the announcement of the award of the Ph.D. degree(s), the university will submit an electronic copy of the Ph.D. thesis to the INFLIBNET (Shodhganga or Shodhgangotri) for hosting the same so as to make it accessible to all institutions/ universities/ colleges.

27. ISSUANCE OF PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE

The University may issue a provisional certificate to the effect that the degree has been awarded in accordance with the provision of the regulations relating to Ph.D. programme and also in compliance with the UGC (Minimum standards and procedure for award of Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2022 read with subsequent ammendments. A certificate under the seal of the university and signed by the Vice-Chancellor shall be awarded to each successful candidate at the next convocation held for conferring the degrees.

28. PUBLICATION OF THESIS

The University may publish a thesis if the examiners unanimously recommend so. Subject to the recommendation of the adjudicators, the thesis may be published by the candidate provided the university does not accept the responsibility for publication of the same and the candidate makes suitable mention within the publication so made that it was a thesis approved for the award of the Ph.D. degree of the NSOU.

29. REVOCATION OF THESIS

If at any time after the degree has been awarded to a thesis, allegation with prima facie evidence is received pointing out plagiarism, and such a case shall be referred for opinion to committee of two experts to be nominated by the RAC concerned. If the allegation is proved, disciplinary actions including revocation of the degree shall be taken after offering the candidate a reasonable opportunity for self-defence.

30. INTERPRETATION/REMOVAL OF DIFFICULTIES

In case of any doubt or ambiguity relating to interpretation of these regulations and in any case not covered by these regulations (including de-registration), the opinion of the Vice-Chancellor shall be final, subject to the provisions of the Netaji Subhas Open University Act [W.B.ACT (XIX) OF 1997], Statute, Ordinances and Regulations and Rules made there under. Unlike other programme run by NSOU the Ph.D. programme of this University is conducted in regular mode. No distance/on-line mode for the said programme is conducted by the University.

31. LIST OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PH.D.) PROGRAMMES

1	Mathematics (PHDMT)
2	Geography (PHDGR)
3	Zoology (PHDZO)
4	Physics (PHDPH)
5	Chemistry (PHDCH)
6	Botany (PHDBT)
7	Environmental Science (PHDES)
8	Bengali (PHDBG)
9	English (PHDEG)
10	English Language Teaching (PHDLT)
11	History (PHDHI)
12	Political Science (PHDPS)
13	Sociology (PHDSO)
14	Education (PHDED)
15	Commerce (PHDCO)
16	Library & Information Science (PHDLS)
17	Social Work (PHDSW)

32. CONTACT DETAILS

Name of School	E-mail ID & Contact No.
School of Sciences	director.sosc@wbnsou.ac.in; Ph- 033 4066 3217
School of Humanities	soh@wbnsou.ac.in; Ph- 033 4066-3203

School of Social Sciences	barnana_soss@wbnsou.ac.in; Ph- 033 4066 3219
School of Professional Studies	anirban1972@gmail.com; Ph- 033 4066 3210/033 4066 9464
School of Education	schooledu@wbnsou.ac.in; Ph- 033 4004 7569/70

33. DIFFERENT ADMINISTRATIVE AND ACADEMIC WINGS OF NSOU

Vice-Chancellor's Secretariat

- DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700 064, Phone: 033 4066 3201, Fax: 033 4066 3224

Registrar's Office

- DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700 064. Phone: 033 4066 3211, Fax: 033 4062 3171

Study Centre Department

- DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700 064, Phone: 033 4066 3205

Office of the Controller of Examinations

- 2nd Floor, 134/1, Meghnad Saha Sarani, Kolkata - 700 029, Phone: 033 2463 0292, Fax: 033 2465 6936

School of Sciences

- City Campus: 1) DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City Kolkata-700 064, Phone: 033 4066 3217, 2) 1st Floor, K-2, Bidhannagar Fire Station, Sector-V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700 091, Phone: 033 2357 2947, 033 2357 7644
- Academic Campus : 1) Kalyani Regional Centre, Academic Building, Ghoshpara Station Road, Kalyani, Nadia, PIN-741 235, Phone: 033 2999-1029, 2) Durgapur Regional Centre (Adjacent to Durgapur Govt. College Campus), Jawahar Lal Nehru Road, Durgapur, Dist. : Paschim Burdwan, PIN-713 214, 3) Jalpaiguri Regional Centre (Adjacent to Jalpaiguri Engineering College Campus), Pat Kata, Dist-Jalpaiguri, PIN-735 101

School of Humanities

- City Campus: DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700 064, Phone: 033 4066 3214
- Academic Campus: 1) Kalyani Regional Centre, Academic Building, Ghosphpara Station Road, Nadia, PIN-741 235, Phone: 033 2999-1028, 2) Durgapur Regional Centre (Adjacent to Durgapur Govt. College Campus), Jawahar Lal Nehru Road, Durgapur, Dist. : Paschim Burdwan, PIN-713 214, 3) Jalpaiguri Regional Centre (Adjacent to Jalpaiguri Engineering College Campus), Pat Kata, Dist-Jalpaiguri, PIN-735 101

School of Social Sciences

- City Campus: DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700 064, Phone: 033 4066 3219
- Academic Campus:1) Kalyani Regional Centre, Academic Building, Ghoshpara Station Road, Kalyani, Nadia, PIN-741 235, Phone: 033 2999-1027, 2) Durgapur Regional Centre (Adjacent to Durgapur Govt. College Campus), Jawahar Lal Nehru Road, Durgapur, Dist. : Paschim Burdwan, PIN-713 214, 3) Jalpaiguri Regional Centre (Adjacent to Jalpaiguri Engineering College Campus), Pat Kata, Dist-Jalpaiguri, PIN-735 101

School of Education

- City Campus: CF-162, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700 064,
  Phone: 033 4004-7569 / 70 / 71
- Academic Campus: 1) Kalyani Regional Centre, Academic Building, Ghoshpara StationRoad, Kalyani, Nadia, PIN-741 235, Phone: 033 2999-1026

School of Professional Studies

- City Campus: DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700 064, Phone: 033 4066 9464
- Academic Campus: 1) Kalyani Regional Centre,School of Professional Studies, Ghoshpara Station Road, Kalyani, Nadia, PIN-741 235, Phone: 033 2999-1025, 2) Durgapur Regional Centre (Adjacent to Durgapur Govt. College Campus), Jawahar Lal Nehru Road, Durgapur, Dist. : Paschim Burdwan, PIN-713 214, 3) Jalpaiguri Regional Centre (Adjacent to Jalpaiguri Engineering College Campus), Pat Kata, Dist-Jalpaiguri, PIN-735 101

Library

- Regional Campus, Kalyani : Ghoshpara Station Road, Kalyani, Nadia, PIN-741 235, Phone: 033 2582 2248

e-Library

- Regional Campus, Jalpaiguri : Academic Building, 1st Floor, Room No. 201 (Adjacent to Jalpaiguri Engineering College Campus), Pat Kata, Dist.-Jalpaiguri, PIN - 735 101
- Regional Campus, Durgapur : Academic Building, 1st Floor, Room No. 205 (Adjacent to Durgapur Govt. College Campus), Jawahar Lal Nehru Road, Durgapur, Dist.-Paschim Burdwan, PIN - 713 214

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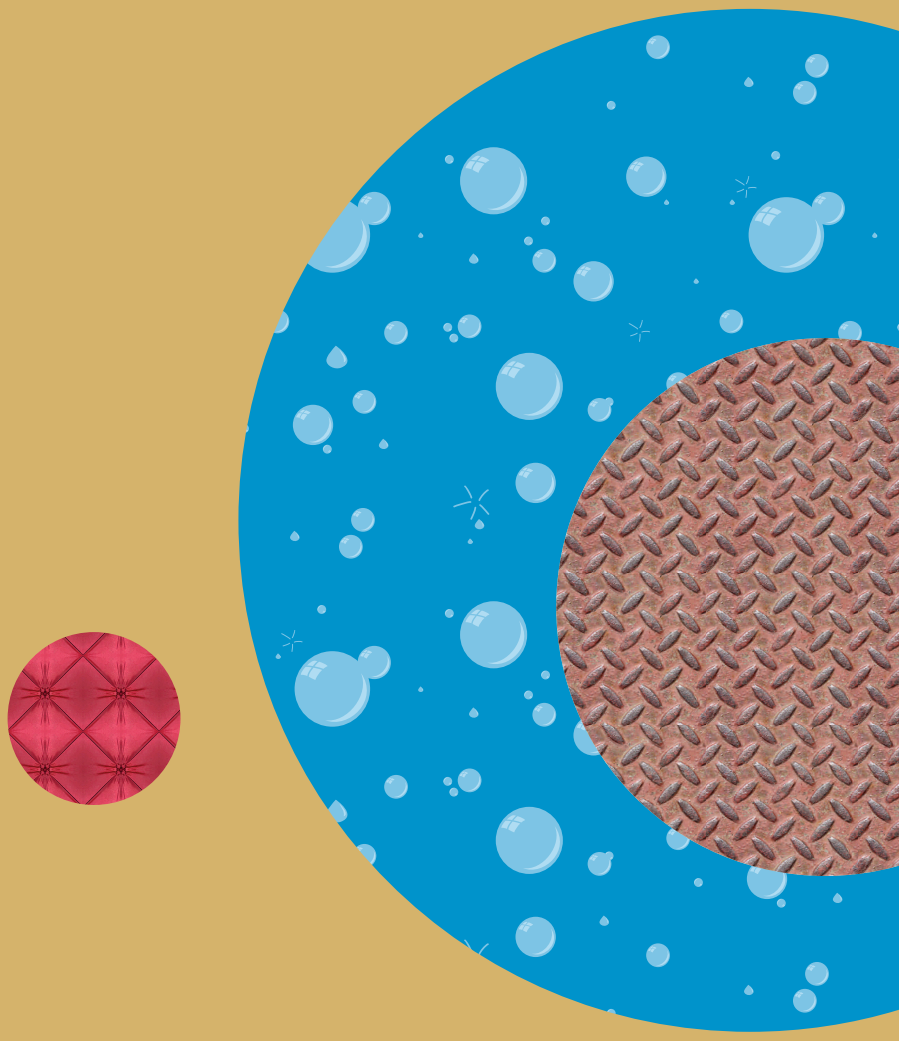

NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY

DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700064

www.wbnsou.ac.in

Printed By : East India Photo Composing Centre, 209A, Bidhan Sarani, Kolkata-700006

Price Rs. 500.00