

ACADEMIC RULES AND REGULATIONS 2023-24
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD) PROGRAMMES

In the exercise of powers conferred by and in discharge of duties assigned under the relevant provision(s) of the Act and the Statutes of the University, the Academic Council hereby frames the Academic Rules and Regulations governing the PhD programmes as detailed below.

PRELIMINARY

- a) These Ordinances may be called PhD Academic Rules and Regulations of DIT University (amended in accordance with the UGC (minimum standards and procedure for the award of M.Phil./PhD Degrees) Regulations, 2022); effective from the Academic Session: 2023-24.
- b) All the clauses are applicable to all the PhD Scholars admitted at DIT University (DITU) from Academic Year 2023-24 onwards.
- c) For the existing PhD scholars (admitted in the Academic year 2022-23 or earlier) the clauses of these regulations will generally apply. However, in cases where there is a difficulty in implementing any clause to such scholars, the Vice Chancellor will have the authority to decide the applicability of the given clause, so that the progress of any existing Scholar is not adversely effected.

1. GENERAL

DIT University (DITU), Dehradun offers academic programmes leading to the award of PhD Degree through its Schools / Departments / Faculty. The award of PhD Degree is in recognition of high academic achievements, independent research contributions and application of knowledge to solve problems in Sciences, Social Sciences, Pharmacy, Engineering, Management, Architecture & Planning etc.

The academic programme leading to the PhD Degree is broad-based and involves minimum course credit requirement and a research thesis. The University also encourages interdisciplinary areas through a system of co-supervision and provides excellent opportunities for such programmes. The University undertakes sponsored research and development projects from industrial and other organizations in the public as well as private sector.

The Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) of DIT University, Dehradun shall be conferred on a candidate, who fulfils all the requirements specified in these Ordinances, on approval of the Board of Governors on the recommendations of the Academic Council through Board of Management.

1.1 Admission

1.1.1 Eligibility

Candidates who have completed 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 qualifications declared equivalent to the master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification 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 the educational institution.

A relaxation of 5% of marks, from 55% to 50%, or an equivalent relaxation of grade, may be allowed for those belonging to DIVYANGJAN (differently-abled) category of candidates. 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 category mentioned above are permissible based only on the qualifying marks without including the grace mark procedures.

1.1.2 Admission Procedure

Eligible candidates who have not qualified in any National level exam will have to appear in DIT University Eligibility Test (DUET). Qualifying cut off marks in DUET will be 50% of the total marks.

The Entrance Test syllabus shall consist of 50% of research methodology, and 50% shall be subject specific.

DIT University will decide the number of eligible students to be called for an interview based on the number of PhD seats available.

Provided that for the selection of candidates based on the entrance test conducted by the HEI, a weightage of 70% for the entrance test and 30% for the performance in the interview/viva- voce shall be given.

DIT University Entrance Test (DUET) is exempted for the candidates who have qualified National level test such as UGC-NET (including JRF) / UGC-CSIR NET (including JRF) / SLET / GATE / DOE / DST / DBT / NBHM / CUCET / ICCR / ICAR / GPAT /Teacher Fellowship holder or equivalent national examination.

These candidates will be adjudged on the basis of personal interview with 100% weightage.

All those candidates who qualify through DUET will be called for personal interview along with candidates belonging to those categories which are exempted from DUET.

The admissions to the PhD programme shall be done through counselling based on the overall merit. Candidates are required to present their research interests at the time of interview.

1.2 Full-Time and Part-Time PhD

DIT University admits students to its PhD programme under one of the two categories:

- i. Full-Time PhD
- ii. Part-Time PhD

While the university will normally look for enriching its research programme through Full-Time PhD students, DITU understands the need to support research in industries and other

organisations in order to fulfil the country's need for trained research personnel. In view of this, DITU will admit Part-Time PhD students from reputed organisations, provided:

He/She must be a working professional (including Faculty/Staff of DIT University), with two (02) years of experience and should produce a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from his/her parent organisation while applying, clearly stating that:

- i. The candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis.
- ii. His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time for research.
- iii. If required, he/she will be relieved from the duty to complete the course work.

The admission criteria, process, pre-PhD course requirement and all other rules and regulations as applicable to full-time PhD students will be also applicable to part-time PhD students, except for the on-campus attendance requirements.

The Vice Chancellor be empowered to permit the conversion of PhD registration type i.e., from Full-Time (FT) to Part-Time (PT) and vice-versa, subject to recommendation of concerned Research Advisory Committee (RAC) and Dean R&C.

1.3 Place of Work / Research Centre

1.3.1 Every PhD Scholar shall work at DIT University campus or National Research Laboratories, R&D Organizations, PSUs, etc. having MOU with DIT University (partner Institutions), having required research facilities.

1.3.2 In case of research topics which are of interdisciplinary nature, PhD Scholar can perform experiments or research work, attend Schools/ Seminars/ Conferences/ Workshops/ Meetings, etc. in India or abroad involving an active participation or field trips such as, data collection, survey work, etc. on recommendation of the concerned Supervisor(s), forwarded by the HoD/Dean (Research) on a case-to-case basis.

1.4 University Fellowship for Full-time (FT) PhD Scholar

1.4.1 The duration and amount of fellowship will be as per the prevailing policy for the Full-time (FT) PhD Scholar who is not getting fellowship/remuneration from any other sources including Government/Semi-Government/Funded Projects, etc. The maximum duration for which the Fellowship can be awarded to a PhD Scholar is **3 years and 6 months**. The continuation of the Fellowship is contingent on satisfactory academic and research performance as well as discharge of responsibilities assigned under the Fellowship scheme.

1.4.2 The University Fellowship amount will be decided from time to time under specified terms and conditions.

1.4.3 Full-time (FT) PhD Scholar getting University Fellowship is required to take up assigned responsibilities including 8-10 hours per week teaching / tutorial / laboratory or any other work assigned by HoD / Dean of School.

1.4.4 In case the attendance of a PhD scholar falls below 75% during a month, he/she will not be paid his/her Fellowship for that month.

2. REGISTRATION

2.1 Registration Procedure

The Competent Authority assisted by the concerned Head of the Department shall co-ordinate the registration process. The registration procedure shall involve:

2.1.1 Payment of requisite fee.

2.1.2 Filling of the registration form mentioning the core and elective courses along with their credits.

2.2 Pre-PhD Course Work Registration

2.2.1 All PhD scholars are required to register for pre-PhD course work (core courses and elective courses) in consultation with his/her Course Advisor/ Research Supervisor(s). Pre-PhD Course work shall be recommended by concerned RAC and approved by Dean Research & Consultancy (R&C). After successful completion of the course work, PhD scholars are required to register for their research work in the subsequent semester.

2.2.2 All courses prescribed for PhD course work shall be in conformity with the credit-hours instructional requirement and shall specify content, instructional and assessment methods.

2.2.3 Those who have already completed the course work in M.Phil. programme with the required CGPA score, and have been permitted to proceed to the PhD programme by Dean R&C, may be exempted by the RAC from doing their pre-PhD course work from DITU. All other candidates admitted to the PhD programme shall be required to complete the pre-PhD course work, as prescribed.

2.3 Research Registration

2.3.1 After successfully completing the pre-PhD course work, within the duration of six (06) months, the PhD scholar will be required to develop a synopsis under the guidance of his/her Research Supervisor(s), which shall be presented before the Research Advisory Committee (RAC). The RAC will give its recommendation for the final approval of the proposed research topic.

2.3.2 Minor changes in the topic/ title of the thesis may be done by the PhD scholar on the recommendations of Research Advisory Committee before pre-submission seminar. The date of his/ her research candidature will be counted w.e.f. his/her date of admission in the DIT University.

2.4 Temporary Withdrawal Procedure

A PhD scholar may be permitted to withdraw for a maximum period of two (02) semesters on medical ground and other genuine reasons subject to the following conditions -

2.4.1 The PhD scholar has already completed the prescribed pre-PhD course work.

2.4.2 He/ She has to submit an application addressed to the Vice Chancellor through the Head of the Department and Dean R&C enclosing the medical proof of ailments and other genuine reasons with substantial proof.

2.4.3 The PhD scholar will have to register at the time of semester registration by depositing the fee of appearing semester.

2.4.4 The PhD Fellowship (if applicable) will be withdrawn during the period of temporary withdrawal.

2.5 Cancellation of Registration

The Vice Chancellor shall be authorized to cancel the registration of a PhD scholar in the following conditions.

2.5.1 On the recommendation of Research Advisory Committee (RAC) due to unsatisfactory Research progress in two consecutive RAC meetings.

2.5.2 Violation of discipline rules of the University.

2.5.3 Submission of false information at the time of registration.

2.5.4 Non-conformity with the regulations of the programme.

2.5.5 In case where a PhD scholar is found to be involved in practicing plagiarism as per rules for Preventing Plagiarism of the University.

2.5.6 On recommendation of Unfair Means Committee due to unfair means in examination.

2.5.7 If thesis is rejected as per clause no 15.3 & 15.4.

2.5.8 In the process of cancellation of registration, principle of natural justice be observed.

3. CONSTITUTION OF THE RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC)

3.1 RAC should be formed soon after the admission process is completed for a candidate by Supervisor(s) in consultation with respective Director / Dean / Head.

Note: (i) A Supervisor/Mentor must be identified for each scholar soon after the admission of the scholar.

(ii) In case a mentor is chosen, the mentor needs to be replaced by a supervisor within the first semester.

3.2 Constitution of Research Advisory Committee (RAC) shall be as follows

1.	Head of the Department	- Chairperson
2.	Research Supervisor	- Member
3.	Co-Research Supervisor (if any)	- Member
4.	Two experts to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor (Nominated experts must be eligible as per Clause No. 9.1/9.6). These experts may be from the same department or another department of DITU in case of interdisciplinary research. In specific cases, such an expert may be from a reputed Institution outside DITU.	- Members

3.3 Functions of the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) shall have the following responsibilities -

3.3.1 To finalize the course work with evaluation instruments in each course for the candidate.

3.3.2 To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research.

- 3.3.3** Guide the PhD scholar to develop the study design and methodology of research.
- 3.3.4** To periodically review and assist the progress of the research work of the PhD scholar.
- 3.3.5** In case the progress of the PhD scholar is unsatisfactory, the Committee shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. If the PhD scholar fails to implement these corrective measures, the committee may recommend to the Department/University with specific reasons for cancellation of the registration of the PhD scholar.
- 3.4** RAC will meet at least once in a semester and monitor the progress of the PhD scholar and, based on the suggestions of the committee, the PhD scholar will take follow-up actions.
- 3.5** All registered PhD scholars are required to present their research progress to Research Advisory Committee once in every semester and should earn satisfactory ‘S’ grade. If the PhD scholar does not attend two consecutive meetings or if he/she earns unsatisfactory ‘U’ grade in two consequent RAC meetings, the admission may be cancelled.
- 3.6** If a PhD scholar needs to change the title/ topic or Supervisor(s), it should be done with the approval of the Research Advisory Committee (RAC). PhD scholars should apply for the same in the prescribed format to Dean R&C.

4. PRE-PhD COURSE WORK

- 4.1** The Pre-PhD course work (core and elective course) shall be treated as prerequisite for PhD preparation to PhD scholar.
- 4.2** The Pre-PhD course work will either be conducted at DIT University or may be a MOOC course or conducted at partner Institute (having MOU with DIT University, as recommended by the course Supervisor(s) and approved by concerned Director / Dean / HoD.
- 4.3** The total credit assigned to the Pre-PhD course work shall be of 16 credits (Core course: 08 credits and Elective course: 08 credits).

Course Name	Periods			Credit
	L	T	P	
Core Courses				
Research Methodology (RM)	4	0	0	4
Research Publication and Ethics (RPE)	2	0	0	2
Seminar	0	0	4	2
Elective Courses				
Elective-I	4	0	0	4
Elective-II	4	0	0	4
Total				16

- 4.4** Under the Core courses, a minimum of four credits (04) shall be assigned to one course on Research Methodology (RM), which could cover areas such as quantitative methods, computer applications, research ethics and review of published research in the relevant field, training, fieldwork, etc. In addition to that there shall be two credits (02) course on

Research and Publication Ethics (RPE) and one advanced level seminar course of two credits (02).

- 4.5 Under the Elective courses, two advanced level courses (Elective I & II) of four credits (04) each as recommended by RAC shall be assigned. These courses shall be related to field of the research work for preparing the students for PhD degree.
- 4.6 The department where the PhD scholar pursues his/ her research shall offer the core and elective courses to him/her based on his/ her research interest. The PhD Supervisor(s) of the candidate may design the syllabus of the elective courses (I & II) depending on the expertise required to pursue the PhD research work. The syllabus shall be duly approved by the Departmental Research Advisory Committee (DRAC) chaired by Director / Dean of the concerned School; HoD of the concerned Department will be the Member Secretary of the Committee.
- 4.7 All candidates admitted to the PhD programmes shall be required to complete the pre-PhD course work prescribed by the Department within initial two semesters. However, if the student is not in a position to complete the pre-PhD course work in the prescribed time limit as above due to genuine reasons, he / she may file an appeal with the recommendations of Dean R&C, the Vice Chancellor can grant extension upto one additional semester. Failing to complete the course work in the extended period will lead to the cancellation of admission.
- 4.8 A PhD scholar has to obtain a minimum of 6.00 CGPA as per the Clause 6.3.

5. EXAMINATION SYSTEM

5.1 The Examination Ordinances shall govern the various examinations including Mid-Term Test, End-Term and Practical/s.

5.2 The examination will be conducted in each semester according to the syllabi approved by the Academic Council. Each course will carry credits as per the approved scheme of courses.

5.3 Attendance Criteria

5.3.1 The attendance is mandatory and the PhD scholars are expected to have 100% attendance, however, the same can be condoned up to 10% on medical grounds or for other genuine reasons beyond the control of the PhD scholar.

5.3.2 75% of the attendance is mandatory to appear in the mid-term and end-term examinations. However, a relaxation of additional 10% may be granted by the Vice Chancellor for genuine reasons such as prolonged periods of hospitalization due to illness.

5.3.3 To be eligible to appear in final practical examination for a lab course, the PhD scholar must have completed at least 50% of the total number of experiments in the course.

5.3.4 A Full-Time and Part-Time PhD scholar with attendance falling short of the minimum required (i.e. 75% in normal case and 65% with the permission of the Vice Chancellor) in a course during the semester shall be detained and will be awarded an 'F' (Fail) Grade in that course regardless of his/her earlier academic performance.

5.4 Back Paper Examination

For courses missed out or those in which the students do not secure pass grades, there exists provision of clearing these through back paper examinations during the odd or even semester as may be announced after registration in the course and payment of the requisite fee.

The PhD Scholars with all pass grades and unable to acquire the required CGPA may be allowed to appear in the improvement exam for some courses so as to meet the minimum requirement of CGPA as per the Ordinance No. 6.3 in the odd/even semester (improvement examinations for PhD programme are not allowed in Summer Term).

Besides, in order to enable the PhD Scholars to meet the CGPA criteria, there exists provision for them to improve their CGPA by taking additional courses as may be recommended by the Course Advisor.

The governing guidelines for back paper/ improvement examinations are summarized as below -

5.4.1 The back paper examinations will be conducted as per the schedule declared in the academic calendar.

5.4.2 Whenever, a Full-Time and Part-Time PhD scholar is permitted to repeat a course, the new letter grade obtained shall replace the old letter grade only if the same is 'better' than the earlier grade.

6. RULES FOR AWARD OF GRADES

6.1 PhD Scholars shall be awarded "Letter Grade" based upon their performance in examinations and their participation in the course during the semester/trimester/summer term in the form of quizzes, assignments, presentations, viva-voce, etc.

6.2 Course wise grade shall be given on the basis of the percentage marks obtained by the student in the respective course/s. For converting, the percentage marks in to corresponding grade (G) following table shall be used:

% of Marks	Letter Grade	Grade Point
91 and above	A+	10
81-90	A	9
71-80	B+	8
61-70	B	7
55-60	C+	6
Less than 55 (Fail)	F	0

6.3 A PhD scholar has to obtain a minimum of C+ grade in each course and minimum CGPA 6.00 in order to be eligible to continue in the programme.

7. SEMESTER AND CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE (SGPA/CGPA)

The SGPA / CGPA is the ratio of sum of the product of the number of credits with the grade points scored by a PhD scholar in all the courses taken by a PhD scholar and the sum of the number of credits of all the courses undergone by a PhD scholar i.e.

$$SGPA / CGPA = \frac{\sum(C_i \times G_i)}{\sum C_i}$$

Where C_i is the number of credits of the i^{th} course and G_i the grade point scored by the student in i^{th} course. The CPI shall be round SGPA / CGPA can be converted in to % marks as follows -

$$\% \text{ of marks} = (\text{SGPA} / \text{CGPA}) \times 10$$

8. WITHHOLDING OF THE GRADE REPORT CARD

The grade report card of a PhD Scholars may be withheld if he/she has not paid his/her dues or if there is any case of indiscipline pending against him/her or for any other valid reasons.

9. RESEARCH SUPERVISOR/CO-RESEARCH SUPERVISOR

9.1 Permanent faculty members of DITU, with a PhD., working as Professor/Associate Professor with at least five (05) research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals or working as Assistant Professors with at least three (03) research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals may be recognized as a Research Supervisor or Co-Supervisor.

9.1.1 Provided further that, the publication should be in the indexed journals listed in the Web of Science/ SCOPUS/ SCI.

9.1.2 In case of other high-quality journals, not available in the above listed databases, the Vice Chancellor may relax the above condition on recommendations of a committee constituted by the Vice Chancellor with two experts (designation equivalent to a Professor or above), Director / Dean / HoD of the concerned department as member and Dean R&C as chair.

9.2 A Co-Research Supervisor may be allowed from other departments of DITU or from other partner Institution/ University with the recommendation of Dean R&C and approved by the Vice Chancellor. The Co-Research Supervisor should also fulfil the eligibility as mentioned in Clause No. 9.1

9.3 PhD scholar may be allowed to take more than one Co-Research Supervisor in exceptional cases on recommendations of the Research Advisory Committee (RAC).

9.4 For Ph.D. scholars working in Central government/ State government research institutions whose degrees are given by DIT University, the scientists in such research institutions who are equivalent to Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor can be recognized as supervisors if they fulfill the requirements mentioned in Clause No. 9.1.

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

9.5 In case of interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research work, if required, a Co-Supervisor from outside the Department/School/Centre/College/University may be appointed.

9.6 The maximum number of PhD scholar who can be registered under a Supervisor at any particular time shall be **eight (08)** for Professor, **six (06)** for Associate Professor and **four (04)** for Assistant Professor.

9.7 The Research Supervisor of a candidate should belong to the discipline of research; however, Co-Research Supervisor may be from cross disciplinary/ interdisciplinary field as per requirements of the research.

9.8 Research Supervisor/ Co-Research Supervisor shall be appointed by Dean R&C in consultation with respective Director / Dean / HoD considering the specialization of Research Supervisor/ Co-Research Supervisor and topic of the research.

9.9 In case an approved Research Supervisor/ Co-Research Supervisor later on ceases to act as the Supervisor due to some reasons, the PhD scholar may be permitted to choose another Supervisor provided the above mentioned criteria in Clause No. 9 are satisfied. The PhD scholar may continue his/her registration on the same topic after the recommendation of the concerned RAC.

9.10 Criteria for selection of PhD Supervisor when he/she is on leave/left/superannuated from the University

9.10.1 In case the Research Supervisor is on leave for a period from one month to three months, then a Co-Research Supervisor needs to be identified by department and need to be approved by the RAC of the PhD scholar.

9.10.2 In case the Research Supervisor is on leave for a period of more than 3 months, then the status of the Supervisor may be changed to Co-Research Supervisor and a new Supervisor is to be identified by the department and the RAC of the student, which has to be approved by Dean, R&C.

9.10.3 In case the Supervisor(s) has resigned/ left the University, then he/she can no longer continue as the PhD Supervisor of the student. However, such faculty members may continue as Co-Supervisor if the concerned department and RAC recommends the same. The RAC will finalize and recommend the name of the new Research Supervisor/ Co-Research Supervisor for the PhD scholar.

9.10.4 A superannuated faculty may not enrol fresh candidates but may continue supervising those candidates who had completed most of the work under his/her guidance (work duration: 03 years or above) but for others (work duration: less than 03 years) he/ she may propose a new Supervisor belonging to the discipline of research of the PhD scholar.

9.10.5 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 PhD scholars who are already registered until superannuation and as a co-supervisor after superannuation, but not after attaining the age of 70 years.

9.11 Selection criteria and allotment of PhD scholar to Research Supervisor(s)

9.11.1 Constitution of personal interview panel for admission purpose is as follows:

- a) Director / Dean of concerned School – Chair
- b) Head of the concerned Department – Member Secretary
- c) All other recognised PhD Supervisors of the concerned department who are willing to supervise PhD scholars and have sufficient number of vacancies or as decided by concerned Director / Dean in consultation with all Professors and Associate Professors/ Senior Faculty members of the department.

9.11.2 PhD scholar should produce the PhD Supervisor(s) consent form at this stage, through the prescribed format.

9.11.3 Personal interview panel shall recommend the list of admitted PhD candidates in order of merit with a preferred domain of research.

10. DURATION OF THE RESEARCH PROGRAMME

10.1 PhD Programme shall be for a minimum duration of three (03) years, including course work, and a maximum duration of six (06) years from the date of admission to the PhD programme.

However, a maximum of an additional two (02) years can be granted in extraordinary circumstances only with recommendation of Research Advisory Committee (RAC) and after permission of the Vice Chancellor; provided, however, that the total period for completion of a PhD programme should not exceed eight (08) years from the date of admission in the PhD programme.

Provided further that, female PhD scholars and Persons with Disabilities (having more than 40% disability) may be allowed an additional relaxation of two (02) years; however, the total period for completion of a PhD programme in such cases should not exceed ten (10) years from the date of admission in the PhD programme.

10.2 In case of relocation of a female PhD Scholar from another university due to marriage or otherwise, the scholar may be considered for transfer to DITU provided all the other conditions in these regulations are followed in letter and spirit and the research work does not pertain to the project secured by the parent Institution/ University Supervisor(s) from any funding agency. The research data shall be allowed to be transferred to DITU; however, such PhD scholar will give due credit to the parent guide and the university for the part of research already done there.

10.3 Leave Rules

10.3.1 Duty leave is permissible for PhD scholars for performing experiments, attending schools/ seminars/ conferences/ workshops/ meetings etc. in India or abroad involving an active participation or field trips such as data collection, survey work, etc., on recommendation of the concerned Supervisor(s), forwarded by the HoD/Dean (Research) on a case-to-case basis. This kind of leave is also permissible for University related activities (e.g., sports, cultural fests, technical fests, etc.) on recommendation of the concerned Supervisor(s), forwarded by the concerned Faculty-In-charge/ Officer for the particular activity and subsequent approval by HoD on a case-to-case basis. Before forwarding the application, the concerned HoD must ensure that TA duties have been taken care of.

10.3.2 All Full-time PhD candidates are entitled for personal leave for a period of maximum 30 days per year (2.5 days leave per completed calendar month) in addition to Public Holidays. This leave cannot be carried over to the next academic year. Personal leave beyond 30 days and not more than 90 days in an academic year may be granted to a PhD scholar in exceptional cases by the concerned Dean without Assistantship/Scholarship.

10.3.3 Leave on medical ground, duly supported by a medical certificate, may be granted to a scholars for up to 10 days per year. Such leave shall not entail any loss of financial assistantship.

10.3.4 The female candidates and DIVYANGJAN (persons with disability more than 40%) may be allowed a relaxation of two years for PhD in the maximum duration. In addition, the female candidates may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave once in the entire duration of PhD for up to 240 days. The application should be supported by a medical certificate. In such cases, the maximum period of registration may be extended by the period of maternity leave availed. When a scholar is permitted such leave the enhancement of fellowship or comprehensive examination (in case it has not taken place yet) shall be deferred for the appropriate period. However, the date of termination of fellowship remains unchanged.

10.3.5 The male candidates are entitled for 15 days of paternity leave at a stretch only once during the tenure of their award. This should be supported by a medical certificate. When a scholar is permitted to avail such leave the enhancement of fellowship or comprehensive examination (in case it has not taken place yet) shall be deferred for the appropriate period. However, the date of termination of fellowship remains unchanged.

11. OPEN SEMINAR PRESENTATION

11.1 Pre-Submission Presentation (PSP) & Open Seminar

11.1.1 After certification by the Supervisor(s) that the PhD scholar has completed his/her research work, he/she shall be required to give Pre-Submission Presentation (PSP) of the research work before Research Advisory Committee for the approval for Thesis submission.

11.1.2 After successful completion of PSP, within one month candidate has to present an Open Seminar.

11.1.3 Here, the Faculty and other PhD scholars are permitted to attend the Open Seminar along with members of the Research Advisory Committee (RAC). Open seminar should incorporate compliance of comments given in PSP.

11.2 Within one month of Open Seminar, PhD scholar shall submit extended abstract of the research work to the Dean R&C. This extended abstract to be submitted in, one printed copy, along with the softcopy in portable document format (.pdf).

12. SUBMISSION OF THESIS

13.1 Thesis Submission

For Thesis submission, PhD scholar should have:

- (i) Completed his/ her pre-PhD course work with a CGPA of 6.00 or higher.
- (ii) Two research publications in WoS/SCOPUS (or other well-established high impact-factor) journals in the field of research, a third publication which can be an internationally reputed journal paper OR published patent OR conference paper. In addition, in specific cases, one research paper in WoS/SCOPUS (or other well-established high impact-factor) journals and the remaining two can be any combination of journal papers, published patents and conference papers with the recommendation of RAC and the approval of the Vice Chancellor.
- (iii) Permission from Research Advisory Committee (RAC) for Thesis submission.

- (iv) The thesis plagiarism must be checked using the authorized plagiarism software available in the library. Plagiarism should not exceed more than 10% without any filters in authorized plagiarism software. Report of the same to be enclosed with the thesis countersigned by PhD scholar and Supervisor(s).
- (v) The student also has to submit the no-dues certificate.
- (vi) The papers published in the Journals must be annexed at the end of the thesis and these must be part of the final thesis being submitted in the library.

13.2 Initially **Two (2)** copies of Thesis in **spiral bound form** are to be submitted to Dean Research & Consultancy (R&C) after approval by the Research Advisory Committee along with an **application for submission and no dues clearance** from the University. **One (01)** additional copy in portable document format (.pdf) is to be submitted to the Dean R&C.

13.3 The Supervisor(s) of the PhD scholar shall submit the list of **Six (06)** examiners for exam panel to Dean R&C, for the purpose of adjudication of the Thesis. The Panel of Examiners shall include preferably **Four** renowned experts (of the field of Thesis work) from India and **Two** renowned experts from foreign universities (related to students work). The Dean R&C will forward the list of the examiners for finalization to the Vice Chancellor. Vice Chancellor will approve any two examiners for examination of the thesis on his discretion from the submitted list of examiners. The Supervisor(s) has to provide the list of examiners in the prescribed format.

13.4 In case the PhD scholar does not submit the Thesis within **Two (02)** months from the date of submission of the extended abstract,

13.4.1 Candidate has to again present Pre-Submission Seminar and Open Seminar as per clause no. 11.

13.4.2 The panel may be reconstituted at the discretion of the Vice Chancellor.

13.5 A PhD scholar must pay the required semester fee for the registration. However, once a scholar submits his/her PhD thesis to the Office of the Dean Research & Consultancy for further evaluation there won't be any semester registration fee until the PhD degree is awarded.

13. ADJUDICATION OF THE THESIS

The Thesis shall be evaluated independently by **Two (02)** external examiners as well as by the Supervisor(s).

14. REVISION AND RESUBMISSION OF THESIS

15.1 If any one or both of the external examiner make any suggestion (minor or major revision) to improve the research work, the internal examiner shall communicate the same to the concerned PhD scholar for necessary action. If the internal examiner is satisfied that the suggestions given by the external examiners have been carried out by the PhD scholar, then the same shall be communicated to the Dean R&C Office.

15.2 The corrections carried out by the PhD scholar shall be communicated to the concerned external examiner within **six (06)** months duration from the date of receipt of comments, in case of minor revisions in thesis. In case of major revision, the duration shall be maximum **one (01)** year from the date of receipt of comments.

15.2.1 In case of minor revisions: no further extension will be granted to the student to implement the suggestions.

15.2.2 In case of major revision: in exceptional circumstances, if the PhD scholar is unable to carry out the suggestions in the prescribed time, then on the written request of the student, the RAC (wherein Dean of School concerned will also be an additional member) will examine the case. Based on the satisfactory ground of the case, the RAC may recommend to the Vice Chancellor for the grant of an extension of maximum up to **six (06)** more months. In such cases, the scholar must re-register for the semester by paying requisite fee.

15.2.3 If PhD scholar fails to submit compliance, the prescribed suggestions within the time limit, the PhD scholar shall be declared ineligible for award of the PhD degree.

15.3 If one of the evaluation reports of the external examiner in case of PhD thesis, is unsatisfactory and does not recommend viva-voce, the Institution/ University shall send the dissertation/thesis to another external examiner out of the submitted panel of examiners, after due approval of the Vice Chancellor. Viva-voce examination shall be held only if the report of the latest examiner is satisfactory. If the report of the latest examiner is also unsatisfactory, the dissertation/thesis shall be rejected and the PhD scholar shall be declared ineligible for the award of the degree.

15.4 If both the examiners reject the thesis, the PhD scholar shall be declared ineligible for the award of the degree.

15. VIVA-VOCE EXAMINATION

16.1 After receiving satisfactory reports from both the examiners. The viva-voce examination, of the PhD scholar shall be conducted by the panel mentioned as below. It shall be open to be attended by Members of the Research Advisory Committee, all faculty members of the Department, other PhD scholars and other interested experts/researchers of the University.

16.2 Panel for Thesis Viva-Voce Examination

1.	Dean R&C or Representative of Vice Chancellor	- Chairman
2.	Director / Dean / HOD	- Member
3.	One external examiner from within India who has evaluated the Thesis	- Member
4.	Supervisor (Internal Examiner)	- Member
5.	Co-Supervisor (if any)	- Member

16.3 After satisfactory Viva-Voce examination, the PhD scholar has to submit final thesis in hard bound form (in **three (03)** copies) as per clause no. 12, incorporating all the suggestion given by examiners. Soft copy in portable document format (.pdf) should also be submitted to Dean R&C Office.

16. AWARD OF DEGREE

The PhD scholars shall be declared eligible for the award of Degree of **Doctor of Philosophy in their respective disciplines** only after completion of the course work with minimum CGPA of 6.00 and satisfactory completion of grade 'S' in their Thesis Viva-Voce examination.

17. DEPOSITORY WITH UGC

On successful completion of the evaluation process and announcement of the award of PhD, the Librarian/Controller of Examination (COE) shall submit a soft copy of the PhD Thesis to UGC portal(s) within a period of 30 days.

18. DOUBT OR AMBIGUITY

In case of any doubt or ambiguity in the interpretation of any clause mentioned above or any other related aspects which may arise, the decision of the Vice Chancellor shall be final.

19. UNFAIR MEANS

The cases of unfair means shall be dealt with as per the Examination Ordinances of DIT University.

20. POWER TO MODIFY

The Vice Chancellor of DITU has the right to modify any of the above regulations as and when required, or alter the Ordinance from time to time as and when necessary.