

Ph.D Programme 2011

1. Designation and Format of the Ph. D Programme

Christ University confers on the eligible candidates, the academic degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) on the basis of a coursework in research methodology and the particular domain/s; publications in refereed journals; participation and/or presentation in National/International seminars; a Dissertation; and its public defense. The degree certificate indicates the discipline under which the degree was pursued, the title of the Dissertation and the date of public defense.

2. Time of admission and duration of the programme

The time taken from the admission till the submission of the dissertation shall be considered as the duration of the doctoral programme. The minimum duration of the doctoral program (M. Phil + Ph. D) shall be three years. The maximum duration of the doctoral program shall be five years. In case, the period of research is extended after three years, annual fee for each year has to be paid before the commencement of the extension.

Candidates are admitted to the doctoral programme in August every year. The Centre for Research will announce the doctoral programme at least two months in advance. The selection procedures (processing the application ,conduct of entrance test and personal interview) are expected to be carried out in a time span of four weeks.

There are two main stages of admission process. Based on the minimum marks prescribed at the masters degree level ,M.Phil in the concerned subject, performance in the entrance test , interview and publications, the candidates are given a provisional admission into the doctoral programme. The final admission will be based on the satisfactory completion of the course work , *finalized* research proposal and its defense in a pre-doctoral colloquium. A time span of two to six months is anticipated between the provisional and final admission to the doctoral programme. After the provisional admission candidates may seek the assistance of subject experts/proposed guides on and off the campus to restructure and improve the quality of their research proposals.

3. Eligibility

The basic eligibility of candidates intending to pursue a doctoral programme is a pass with a minimum of 55% in a Postgraduate Programme and M. Phil. Based on the academic performance of the candidate at the postgraduate level, she or he can be admitted to a Ph. D programme which includes a pre-doctoral course work for a minimum period of one semester. It is comprising of Research Methodology which may include Quantitative methods and computer applications. It may also involve reviewing

of published research in the relevant field, specific research methodologies, bridging core subjects (for interdisciplinary research projects), electives etc.

Candidates residing / working anywhere in India or abroad working in educational or other institutions are eligible for registration.

4. Admission Process

Admission process will have two stages:

- a. Registration (Provisional admission)
- b. Admission approval (Confirmation of Registration)

6.1 Registration

- Application Form of the University, along with the Research Proposal containing the details as per the prescribed format (1500 words), submitted in three sets of hard copy and one set of soft copy, together with a non-refundable registration fee of Rs. 1000/-
- Within 30 days of receipt of application, the candidate will be invited for an Entrance Test and Personal Interview.
- On receipt of the application the Centre for Research send copy of the proposal (without the cover note) to each member of the interview panel to enable their review.
- The interview will be conducted by the panel of experts (Ph. D Admission Committee) within 30 days of receipt of the application. Admission Committee will consist of the Subject Expert, Dean representing the Domain, Research Coordinator and the Directors. Every member will independently assess the research proposal on a joint sitting based on the criteria, viz., the clarity of thought, research aptitude, analytical & interpretational skill and the general subject knowledge of the candidate and make independent recommendation to the Ph. D Admission Committee. Based on the above assessment, the committee will decide either to accept or to reject or for resubmission of the proposal with suggested modification.
- In case the candidate is asked to resubmit the proposal, such resubmission and re-review will be completed within a maximum period of 45 days after the first interview to decide on the final selection.

6.2 Admission Approval

- The Ph. D Admission Committee identifies the Guide to be assigned to the student from the empanelment made by the University, and recommends it to the Doctoral Commission (DC)
- After obtaining permission from the DC, the proposal (without cover note) shall be sent to the Guide for his/her concurrence and comments, if any. This process shall be completed within a period of 30 days after the completion of entrance test and interview.
- The candidate will be communicated of the acceptance of the proposal and approval of admission, and directed to remit the first year fee for the Ph. D course. The fees should be paid within 10 days of the approval of the provisional admission.
- The Centre for Research will issue the student, a letter of introduction to the Guide, with a copy marked to the Guide, the Dean concerned, the Controller of Examinations and the department of the Information Processing and Management.

- Along with the copy of the letter of introduction, the Guide shall also be sent a Contract Letter in duplicate, to be signed and returned by the Guide duly accepted. The Contract letter will specify the terms and conditions of the assignment, restating the job responsibilities and the reporting requirements.
- On successive completion of the Course Work specified under Clause 8, the admission to PhD degree Course will be confirmed. Eligible students whose registration(Admission) is confirmed will be permitted to continue further

5. Research Disciplines

Following academic disciplines have been identified for the doctoral research programme:

Psychology, Philosophy, Physics, Education, Sociology, Management, Commerce, Computer Science, Mathematics, Economics, Media Studies, English Literature, Social Work, History, Tourism and Law

6. Coursework

The course work contemplated under the Ph. D Regulations of Christ University is as follows.

8.1 Duration

Duration of the course work shall be 6 months from the date the student is assigned to the Guide and shall be counted within the overall normal duration of three years for the Ph. D programme. This date shall be the date of commencement of the Ph. D Programme.

8.2 Components of Course Work

The course work for Ph. D programme of Christ University will have two parts - A and B.

Part A

1. This Constitutes class works at the University Campus for duration of 30 to 45 Hrs each on one **elective paper** (based on the faculty of research) and one general academic paper/Research methodology.(Students may be given an option to choose one paper out of two offered under each category).
2. The classes may be spread over 6 to 8 week ends (Saturdays & Sundays) or on one stretch of 7 to 10days or in combination.
3. The papers shall have a specified syllabus divided in to three to four modules.
4. Attendance for these classes is mandatory and students with less than **85% attendance** will be required to repeat **Part A** Course Work.

5. Students lacking in attendance will not be allowed to make presentation or to appear for test at the end of six months.
6. On Completion of this part of the Course Work the student will be required to submit the required assignments and make a presentation based on their comprehension and perspectives of the class work which may include sustainable independent points of view of the presenter.
7. The presentation will be assessed for its clarity of thought, logical sequence of its content and skill of expression.
8. The presentation should be for a minimum duration of 20 minutes and maximum duration of 30 minutes.
9. The Student will also be required to appear for a test on each paper at the end of the course work.
10. The student will be required to repeat **Part A** if the marks scored is less than 50% in aggregate .
11. This part of the course work is independent of and in addition to the tests specified for students who have been exempted from M.Phil for enrollment.

Part B

This part of the Course Work refers to the following research components specified in the PhD Regulation. This will be completed with the involvement of the Research Guide.

1. Literature Review – Review of related literature with reasonable amount of literature review covering different aspects of the field of research must be done within the duration of the course work.
2. The candidate will be required to participate in at least two seminars of relevance or will present a paper in at least one seminar of relevance or a combination of both, within the duration of the course work.
3. The research methodology to be employed for the research must be critically reviewed as to its strengths and weaknesses and has to be justified with reference to the scope of research.
4. The Student has to work in consultation with the Guide duly keeping record of the sessions with the Guide as per the prescribed format.
5. The record along with a written report of the Part B of the Course Work in about 20 – 30 pages must be submitted within 15 days of completion of the course work.

6. The Doctoral Committee if satisfied with the report, within 30 days of its receipt, shall seek a presentation* (of about one hour duration) to the committee in the presence of the allotted Guide.
7. The Student must score at least 55% of marks in aggregate in Part B of the course work to be eligible to continue the PhD programme.
8. Failure to score the required marks for course work evaluation will need the student to submit additional assignments as may be directed by the Doctoral Committee.
9. The Guide and the student have to jointly structure the course work component with a set study plan including tentative schedule of personal meeting and other interacting mode between the guide and the student.
10. The finalized study plan, in the given format, signed by the Student and approved by the Guide must be sent to the Research Centre, within 15 days from the start date (Assignment of the Guide).

*** The presentation must cover the Research Proposal as to its feasibility, its significance, scope, practical application, methodology and limitations. It must be a comprehensive and brief elucidation of the research proposal in its entirety duly explaining the preliminary study done during the course work period.**

7. Guideship

Guiding for the research programme may commence from the beginning of the coursework itself. Each candidate shall work under the supervision of a guide. Depending on the nature (e.g. interdisciplinary approach) and extent of the research a co-guide may be appointed with the approval of the Doctoral Commission.

9.1 Guide

The minimum requirement for guideship is a Ph. D from a recognized university in India or abroad. A senior academician of the rank of a professor or an eminent expert in a particular discipline having research experience and publications in refereed journals is eligible for the guideship at the doctoral level. The guides are expected to have sufficient experience in postdoctoral research. The Doctoral Commission can appoint a guide based on his or her institutional background and research competence (as demonstrated preferably through publications in refereed journals) – irrespective of previous experience in guiding the doctoral research. As per UGC rules the number of candidates a guide may have under his/her supervision is limited to six.

9.2 Co-Guide

The Co-Guide can be appointed from the research faculty or another faculty in related disciplines (in case of interdisciplinary research) or from an external faculty at a reputed university/research institute in India or abroad. The candidate has the right to choose the Co-Guide with the approval of his/her Guide and the Doctoral Commission.

8. Progress of the research programme

1. After the enrolment, the candidate shall discuss the research proposal with the guide (approved by the Doctoral Commission). The title of the dissertation and the research design (including the specific research methodology, literature survey and the organization of the research) has to be finalized within a period of three to six months. Any change of the topic or major modification of the research design, methodology or organization shall have to be approved by the Doctoral Commission.
2. The candidate can carry out the literature survey along with the coursework in bridging core subjects/electives (which follows the coursework in research methodology). The structure of the coursework and the modes of presentation of the research output may vary according to the research disciplines.
3. Weightage will be given for the publication in reputed journals and paper presentation in national/international conferences related to the area of research.

9. Doctoral Colloquia

Doctoral Colloquia are venues for scientific discourse where the researchers get the opportunity to present their doctoral research work – its conceptual framework and progression – in a discussion group consisting of scholars from various disciplines. The doctoral colloquia are coordinated by the guides with the consent of the Centre for Research and are open to both academics as well as students of all faculties. This is in view to maintain and promote the interdisciplinary approach to research among researchers and to enable the academics and students from the undergraduate and postgraduate levels to get acquainted with the research environment on campus. The doctoral candidates are expected to attend at least one colloquium in a research semester (6 months) and give a presentation which should adequately demonstrate and discuss the progress of their doctoral dissertation. The research guides are responsible for organizing at least two doctoral - a departmental and a general - colloquia every year; they may seek advice and guidance from the Centre for Research in this regard. The presentations in doctoral colloquia have to be properly evaluated and documented.

Prior to the submission of the thesis, the candidate shall make a pre presentation in the Department that may be open to all faculty members and research students, for getting feedback and comments.

10. Progress Report & Doctoral Colloquia

Doctoral candidates are expected to submit two hard copies of the progress report of their doctoral research every semester (i.e. every six months) duly signed by the Guide. The extent and the format of the progress report will be decided by the research guides with the consent of the Centre for Research. The progress report should cover the chapter wise progress of the doctoral dissertation, deviation (if any) from the original research proposal and its time plan as well as its justification and other research activities such as attending academic conferences, publications, paper presentations at national and international seminars.

11. Dissertation

The topic of the dissertation must be chosen from a subject area or areas represented by the faculties identified for the doctoral research at the Christ University. The guide decides on the topic of the dissertation in agreement with the doctoral candidate. Before beginning work on the dissertation itself, the candidate develops a work schedule with the help of the guide. Each semester, the guide evaluates the progress of the research.

The guide is responsible to the extent of his or her possibilities for making sure that the materials necessary for carrying out scientific work are put at the disposal of the candidate. The guide evaluates the progress of the dissertation according to scientific criteria. The dissertation must meet scientific standards in form and content and present new findings. It should generally be completed within a period of three years. However, this period can be extended up to five years with the consent of the Doctoral Commission.

The candidate must receive the consent of his or her guide to publish portions of the dissertation before its completion. The dissertation must include a title page designed according to the sample title page provided by the Christ University.

12. Publication

PhD candidates shall publish one research paper in a refereed journal before the submission of the Doctoral thesis/Dissertation for adjudication, and produce evidence for the same in the form of acceptance letter or the reprint. **(UGC Regulation, 2009)**

13. Submission of Dissertation

The candidate must receive the consent of his or her guide to publish portions of the dissertation before its completion. The dissertation must include a title page designed according to the sample title page provided by the Christ University.

a) The title page of the dissertation, cover format, etc., should strictly conform to the format of presentation as prescribed and the dissertation (all copies) should carry a declaration by the candidate and certificate duly signed and issued by the guide. The dissertation should be hard bound.

- b) The research proposal, the synopsis and the PhD Dissertation may generally be written in English (for subjects other than languages).
- c). Extension of time for submission of PhD dissertation will be granted up to a maximum period of one year at a time on the payment of the fees prescribed from time to time.
- d). Candidates should have submitted two-half yearly reports per year till the submission of the PhD Dissertation.
- e). The PhD Dissertation will not be accepted for adjudication unless the candidate has paid annual fees for the total duration of the program along with the fee for the valuation of the PhD Dissertation as prescribed by the University.
- f) Every candidate shall submit a declaration by himself / herself and a certificate from the guide in the prescribed formats, with his/her application for the PhD degree and the dissertation as given below. An extra copy of each of the certificate and declaration has to be submitted along with the dissertation.
- g) On completion of the dissertation work candidates shall submit six hard copies, two soft copies (PDF and DOC/TEX formats) of the PhD Dissertation and eight copies of the Synopsis of the dissertation to the Centre for Research.
- h) Evaluation of the dissertation will be done as per the UGC guidelines.
- i) The dissertation should generally be completed within a period of three years. However, this period can be extended up to five years with the consent of the Doctoral Commission.

14. Cancellation of the Ph. D Registration

The registration of the Ph. D is cancelled under the following circumstances:

- (a) Those who do not complete the course work of the Ph. D in the relevant subject within ONE year of registration.
- (b) Those who fail to submit two 6-month reports continuously.
- (c) Those who do not pay the annual fee within the stipulated time.
- (d) Those who fail to submit the dissertation within 5 years of the registration.