VPKBIET

Guidelines for admission to PhD

(As per Ordinance 186 of SPPU July 2026)

1. Eligibility Criteria for Ph.D. Admission

- **Master's Degree Holders:** A 1-year/2-semester master's degree after a 4-year bachelor's, or a 2-year/4-semester master's degree after a 3-year bachelor's degree.
- **Minimum Marks:** Must have at least **55% marks in aggregate** or its equivalent grade scale.
- **4-Year Bachelor's Degree Holders:** Eligible directly with a minimum of **75% marks in aggregate** or its equivalent grade.
- **M.Phil. Degree Holders:** Eligible with at least **55% marks in aggregate**.
- **Relaxation:** A **5% marks relaxation** (or equivalent grade) is given to SC, ST, DT-A, NT-B, NT-C, NT-D, SEBC, OBC (non-creamy layer), Differently-Abled, and EWS candidates.

2. Duration of the Program

- **Minimum Duration: 3 years**, including the period spent on coursework. Pre-Ph.D. presentations are allowed only after completing 3 years.
- **Maximum Duration: 6 years** from the date of admission.
- **Re-registration Extension:** An additional **2 years** can be granted, capping the absolute maximum duration at **8 years**.
- **Special Relaxations:** Female scholars and Persons with Disabilities (more than 40% disability) get an additional 2-year relaxation, bringing their maximum timeline to **10 years**.
- **Maternity/Child Care Leave:** Female scholars can claim up to **240 days** of leave across the entire program duration.

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3. Procedure for Admission

- **National-Level Test Exemptions:** UGC-NET passing students are divided into categories:
  - **Category-1:** Eligible for Ph.D. admission with JRF and Assistant Professor roles
  - **Category-2:** Eligible for Ph.D. admission without JRF and Assistant Professor roles.
  - **Category-3:** Eligible for Ph.D. admission only.
- **Selection for Exempted Candidates:** Based **solely on an interview/viva-voce** evaluated out of 100 marks.
- **Fellowship Holders Route:** Candidates with active fellowships (UGC-NET/CSIR-NET/NBHM etc.) can apply to a research centre at any time of the year. Interviews for them are conducted every 3 months.
- **Ph.D. Entrance Test (PET):** Conducted by the university for non-exempted students. The syllabus is split into **50% Research Methodology** and **50% Subject-Specific** content.
- **PET Qualifying Cut-off:** Candidates must secure **50% marks** (45% for reserved/differently-abled categories) to qualify for the interview.
- **Final Selection Weightage (PET Qualifiers):** Evaluated with a **70% weightage on PET scores** and a **30% weightage on interview performance**.

4. Process of Admission/Registration

- **Application Timeline:** Selected applicants must apply to the Registrar, SPPU, within **4 months of being allotted a supervisor**.
- **Provisional Presentation:** The candidate must make a brief proposal presentation before the Research Advisory Committee (RAC).
- **Modification Window:** If RAC suggests changes, the student must revise and re-present within **15 days**.
- **Registration Date:** The date of a **successful RAC proposal presentation** is treated as the official date of provisional admission/registration.
- **Simultaneous Degrees:** Scholars cannot register for another degree course concurrently, though short-duration foundation courses are allowed.



5. Admission of International Students

- **Supernumerary Seats:** Each supervisor can take up to **2 international scholars** over and above their normal permissible scholar limits.
- **Selection Mode:** SPPU determines its own selection procedure for foreign nationals following statutory national guidelines. For local reservation tallies, foreign candidates are treated on par with the Open Category.

6. Course Work

- **Total Credits:** Ph.D. coursework requires a total of **16 credits**.
- **Course Structure Breakdown:**
  - **Course 1:** Research Methodology (4 credits)
  - **Course 2:** Seminar/Conference/Workshop attendance (1 credit)
  - **Course 3:** Two Subject-Specific advanced courses (8 credits)
  - **Course 4:** Research & Publication Ethics (2 credits)
  - **Course 5:** Pedagogical Training/In lustrial Visit Report (1 credit)
- **Completion Timeline:** Must be completed within the **initial 2 years** from the registration date.
- **Passing Standard:** Scholars must clear coursework by obtaining a **minimum of 55% marks** or its equivalent grade in the UGC 10-point scale.

7. Minimum Standards/Credits for Award of Ph.D.

- **Coursework:** Successful completion of 16 credits with 55% marks.
- **Mandatory Publication:** Scholars must publish **at least one research paper** in a Scopus or UGC-CARE listed journal befo: e completion.
- **Minimum Time Tracking:** Synopsis submission is permitted only after completing **36 months (3 years) from the date of registration**.

Research Cell

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