

RV UNIVERSITY

Ph.D. PROGRAMME REGULATIONS: REVISION 2025

RV University Ph.D. programmes are progressive, aspirational, and multi-disciplinary and in compliance with the UGC Notification dated 7th November 2022– Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degrees.

RV University provides an opportunity for professionals in the industry, government services, lawyers, management, service sectors, and young researchers to pursue a Ph.D. degree in both full-time and part-time mode. RV University encourages candidates to take up research in new and challenging areas such as performing arts, liberal arts, design, education leadership, social entrepreneurship, law, business, innovation management, higher education, political management, service strategies, business strategy, environmental science and other multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary areas.

RV University has collaborations with reputed national and international organizations and universities, with opportunities to carry out research in these institutions.

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1	REQUIREMENTS FOR RECOGNITION AS PH.D. GUIDE AND CO-GUIDE AT RV UNIVERSITY
	<p>In order to be recognized as a Ph.D. guide of the University, the faculty member must fulfil the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> She/ They/ He must be a full-time regular faculty of the University with a Ph.D. degree from a UGC-recognized University. If the Ph.D. degree is awarded by a foreign University, the Standing Committee of the University will review the application and shall take appropriate steps to ascertain the equivalence of the Ph.D. degree awarded by the foreign University. Permanent/ full-time faculty members working as Assistant Professors with a PhD degree and at least three research publications in peer-reviewed / refereed journals or book chapters may be recognized as research supervisors. Permanent/ full-time faculty members working as Professors /Associate Professors with a PhD degree and at least five research publications in peer-reviewed / refereed journals or book chapters may be recognized as a research supervisor. In exceptional cases, in areas/disciplines where there are very few or no peer-reviewed / refereed journals, the university may relax the above condition for recognition as Research Supervisor, with reasons recorded in writing. As per UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations of November 7, 2022), an Assistant Professor shall be permitted to guide a maximum of four Ph.D. students, an Associate Professor shall be permitted to guide a maximum of six Ph.D. students, and a Professor shall be permitted to guide a maximum of eight Ph.D. students at any given time. However, the University may decide to cap the maximum number of Ph.D. students per Assistant / Associate / Full Professor as per its discretion. A recognised Research Supervisor of RVU cannot supervise research scholars in other institutions, where they can only act as co-supervisor. Addition of a Co-Guide / Co-Supervisor within the same department or other departments of the same institution or other institution shall be permitted with the approval of the competent authority. Adjunct faculty shall not act as Research Supervisors and can only act as Research Co-Supervisor. In the case of relocation of a female Ph.D. scholar due to marriage or otherwise, the research data shall be allowed to be transferred to the University to which the scholar intends to relocate, provided all the other conditions in these Regulations are followed, and the research work does not pertain to a project sanctioned to the parent institution/ supervisor by any funding agency. Such scholar shall, however, give due credit to the parent institution and the supervisor for the part of research already undertaken. Faculty members with less than 3 years to superannuation shall be not allowed to supervise any new scholar. However, they may continue with already allotted scholars until superannuation and may continue as Co-Supervisor until the age of 70. Each supervisor may guide up to two international students on a supernumerary basis

	<p>over and above the permitted number of Ph.D. scholars.</p> <p>(m) The supervisor carries the responsibility of guiding the academic progress of the candidate throughout the period of study. She/ They/ He counsel the student in academic matters, and provide guidance on the nature of coursework and research, the standards expected, the adequacy of progress, and the quality of work.</p>
2	<p>ALLOCATION OF SUPERVISORS</p> <p>Faculty who fulfil the eligibility requirements of a Ph.D. supervisor specified in S. No. (1) are permitted to apply for recognition as Ph.D. supervisor, in the format prescribed by the University. All applications for the award of recognition as a research supervisor in RVU's PhD programme shall be reviewed by the Dean-Research. Those faculty members who are found eligible shall be issued a letter awarding them recognition as a research supervisor in the University's doctoral studies programme.</p> <p>The Dean of the School shall allocate a supervisor to each research scholar enrolled in the School, in consultation with the Research Coordinator of the School.</p> <p>In the event that the supervisor allotted to a research scholar exits from RVU, the Dean of the School shall assign a new supervisor to the research scholar.</p> <p>In case of interdisciplinary or multi-disciplinary Ph.D. Programme, co-supervisors are permitted from other schools and departments of the University and other institutions subject to the approval of the Dean of the School.</p> <p>In case of performing arts, films, theatre, design and related practice-oriented areas, industry practitioners can be given recognition as co-supervisors. The Dean of the School will assess the inter-disciplinary nature of the topic of study undertaken by the candidate and shall decide on the expertise, qualification required by the co-supervisor to supplement or support the Ph.D. supervisor from other departments or institutions on such terms and conditions as may be agreed by the two institutions.</p>
3	<p>DURATION OF THE PH.D. PROGRAMME</p> <p>Candidates aspiring for a Ph.D. degree at RV University can choose a 'Full-Time Ph.D. Programme' or a 'Part Time / Executive Ph.D. Programme'.</p> <p><u>Full-Time Ph.D. Programme:</u> The minimum duration of study shall be THREE years and the maximum duration shall be SIX years from the date of provisional registration, including coursework.</p> <p><u>Part Time / Executive Ph.D. Programme:</u> The minimum duration of study shall be FOUR years and the maximum duration shall be SIX years from the date of provisional registration, including course work.</p> <p>In the case of a part time Ph.D., the candidate should submit a "NO OBJECTION CERTIFICATE" from the appropriate authority of their employer clearly stating that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate is permitted to pursue doctoral studies on a part-time basis. His/ Her / Their official duties permit him/ her/ them to devote sufficient time for research.

	<p>iii. If required, he/ she/ they will be relieved from official duty to complete the coursework.</p> <p>EXTENSION:</p> <p>Extension beyond the above limit shall be governed by the decisions of the Academic Council. The following extensions are permissible, as per the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022:</p> <p>(i) An extension of an additional 2 years can be given through the process of re-registration. However, the total period for completing the Ph.D. should not exceed 8 years from the date of provisional registration including coursework.</p> <p>(ii) In the case of persons with disabilities (>40% disability), female Ph.D. scholars, and other vulnerable sections, an additional TWO years can be provided to complete the Ph.D. work, after due approval. In such cases, the total period for completing the Ph.D. should not exceed 10 years from the date of provisional registration, including the coursework.</p> <p>(iii) In addition, women candidates may be provided with maternity leave/ childcare leave for up to 240 days, once in the entire duration of their Ph.D.</p>
4	ADMISSION TO PH.D. PROGRAMME
4.1	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:
	<p>The eligibility requirements to apply for Ph.D. Programme at RV University are as follows:</p> <p>(a) The candidate must have a 1-year/ 2-semester Masters' degree after a 4-year/ 8-semester Bachelors' degree or a 2-year/ 4-semester Masters' degree after a 3-year/ 6 -emester Bachelors' degree from a recognized university in a relevant branch/discipline with minimum 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale where grading system is followed or an equivalent degree from foreign University accredited by an international agency or an agency approved under a law in its home country.</p> <p>(b) A candidate seeking admission after a 4-year / 8-semester Bachelors' degree must have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point where the grading system is followed.</p> <p>(c) A candidate who has completed the M.Phil. Programme with a minimum of 55% marks in aggregate, or its equivalent grade in a point scale where grading system is followed, or an equivalent degree from foreign University accredited by an international agency or an agency approved under a law in its home country, is also eligible.</p> <p>(d) A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade shall be give to those belonging to SC/ ST/ OBC (non-creamy layer), differently-abled, economically weaker sections (EWS), and other categories as per the decision of the UGC from time to time.</p>
4.2	PROCEDURE FOR ADMISSION:
	<p><u>The selection process includes a written entrance examination and a viva-voce.</u></p> <p>(A) The written entrance test will have TWO parts. The applicant has to obtain a minimum of 50% marks in each of the TWO parts of the entrance test conducted by RV University.</p>



	<p>Part A of the test will assess the applicant on Research Methodology and Part B will be domain / subject / course specific. The entrance test will be conducted ONCE in a year. Details regarding the fees, date, and duration of the tests will be notified on the university website from time to time. The test score shall be valid for TWO years from the date of declaration of the results.</p> <p>(B) Applicants who secure a minimum of 50% marks in the entrance test will be eligible for taking the personal interview. A relaxation of 5% marks will be given for students belonging to the following categories: SC/ ST/ OBC/ differently-abled/ economically weaker section (EWS).</p> <p>(C) A weightage of 70% will be assigned to the entrance examination and 30% to the interview/ viva-voce.</p> <p>(D) Candidates who have qualified in NET/SET/GATE or any other equivalent national or state-level exams or have already completed M.Phil. are exempted from writing the entrance test.</p>
4.3	Lateral Entry Admissions
	<p>Candidates seeking admission to RVU's Ph.D. programme under this category should fulfil all the above eligibility criteria listed above and must have previously registered with a UGC recognised University.</p> <p>At the time of the transfer to RVU, the lateral entry candidate must submit the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Transcripts of coursework completed (ii) A No-Objection Certificate / Migration Certificate from the previous University (iii) Research proposal and progress report of research work completed. <p>Lateral entry candidates may be exempted from writing the entrance examination. However, they are required to appear for the viva voce examination.</p> <p>Lateral entry candidates may be exempted from pursuing PhD coursework at RVU, provided they have earned the required number of credits, and completed the compulsory and domain specific courses, as mandated by the prevailing UGC Regulations, in the previous institution of affiliation. The procedure to be followed in such cases of exemption from coursework is detailed in the RVU Examination Policy for Doctoral Studies, which governs all aspects of the PhD coursework.</p> <p>The progress reports of the Research Advisory Committee meetings conducted in the previous institution of affiliation will not be considered upon admission in RVU's PhD programme. The lateral entry candidate will be required to complete three RAC meetings (if a full time scholar) and four RAC meetings (if a part time scholar) at six monthly intervals, with satisfactory progress reports, before proceeding to the Pre Thesis Submission Colloquium at RVU.</p>

5	Provisional Ph.D. Registration & Course Work
	<p>(A) Candidates who qualify the admission process are eligible to register for the Ph.D. coursework by paying the necessary fees.</p> <p>(B) A provisional registration letter shall be issued to them.</p> <p>(C) The minimum credit requirement for the Ph.D. coursework is 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.</p> <p>(D) The candidate will have to take at least TWO additional courses in the subject area as specified by the guide/ research supervisor. The guide shall specify the course content, instructional and assessment methods to the candidate with information to the Research Advisory Committee (RAC).</p> <p>(E) The candidate must score of minimum 55% marks or an equivalent grade on the UGC point 10 scale to qualify the coursework.</p> <p>(F) The candidate shall normally complete the coursework in ONE year. However, in exceptional cases, additional time may be provided by the RAC.</p>
6.	Ph.D. Registration & Formation of Research Advisory Committee
	<p>(A) The candidate shall meet with the recognized research supervisor of RV University to discuss his/ her/ their area/s of interest commensurate with the supervisor’s area of specialization.</p> <p>(B) The School/ department shall form a Research Advisory Committee (RAC) for each candidate with the supervisor as the Convenor of the Committee. The RAC shall have two other members, with at least one external member.</p> <p>(C) The RAC shall have the following responsibilities:</p> <p>(i) To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research.</p> <p>(ii) To guide the Ph.D. scholar in developing the study design and methodology of research and identify the course(s) that he/she/ they may have to do.</p> <p>(iii) To periodically review and assist in the progress of the research work of the Ph.D. scholar.</p> <p>(D) Upon successful completion of the coursework, the Ph.D. scholar shall make a presentation on the topic / research proposal decided in consultation with the research supervisor before the RAC. The RAC shall conduct an interview to assess the following:</p> <p>(i) Competence to take up the proposed research</p> <p>(ii) Expected research outcomes and contribution to the existing body of knowledge</p> <p>(iii) Facilities and timelines for completing the research.</p> <p>(E) Based on the recommendation of the RAC, the University will issue a registration letter to the candidate. Upon receipt of the letter, the candidate shall pay the necessary fees and</p>

	<p>shall be designated as ‘Research Scholar’.</p> <p>(F) Each semester, a Ph.D. scholar shall appear before the Research Advisory Committee to make a presentation and submit a brief report on the progress of his/ her/ their work for evaluation and further guidance. The Research Advisory Committee shall submit its recommendations along with a copy of Ph.D. scholar’s progress report to the University. A copy of such recommendations shall also be provided to the Ph.D. scholar.</p> <p>(G) All full-time 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. Full-time Ph.D. scholars may also be assigned 4-6 hours per week of teaching/research assistantship for conducting tutorial or laboratory work.</p> <p>(H) As part of the responsibilities, a full-time research scholar shall work as a Teaching Assistant for at least one semester and as a Research Assistant for at least one semester and undertake related work.</p> <p>(I) Part time PhD candidates must fulfil the residence requirement of 4 weeks per year. They are required to be present on the RVU campus for two weeks in a semester / four weeks in a year.</p>
7.	Submission of Ph.D. Progress Reports
	<p>(A) The research scholar shall appear before the RAC once in 6 months to make a presentation on the progress of research work for assessment and further guidance. A copy of the progress report along with the observations and recommendations of the RAC shall be with the Ph.D. scholar, the supervisor and the examination section of the University.</p> <p>(B) In case the progress of the research scholar is not satisfactory, the reasons for non-performance shall be recorded and corrective measures shall be recommended by the RAC. If the research scholar fails to implement and comply with the recommendation of RAC for more than one year or two consecutive presentations, the RAC may recommend cancellation of registration.</p> <p>(C) Full-time scholars must present their ongoing work before the RAC constituted for them in at least three meetings, conducted at six monthly intervals, before proceeding to the Pre Thesis Submission Colloquium. In each RAC meeting, the RAC members must approve the progress of the scholar unanimously, and indicate that it is at least “satisfactory” (the other two categories of evaluation being “good” and “outstanding”).</p> <p>(D) Part-time scholars must present their ongoing work before the RAC constituted for them in at least four meetings, conducted at six monthly intervals, before proceeding to the Pre Thesis Submission Colloquium. In each RAC meeting, the RAC members must approve the progress of the scholar unanimously, and indicate that it is at least “satisfactory” (the other two categories of evaluation being “good” and “outstanding”).</p> <p>(E) As per the UGC Regulations (2022), publication of a research paper before the final submission of the Ph.D. thesis is not mandatory. However, RVU Ph.D. scholars are</p>

	<p>encouraged to, publish at least one article in a refereed journal and participate in at least two conferences, one in India and one outside India, before submission of thesis. The research scholar must be the first author in the publication. The publication must mention the names of the supervisor / co-supervisor and RV University.</p> <p>(F) Ph.D. scholars are also eligible to go to partner institutions in India or abroad for a period of 6 months for joint research work, which could result in publications and research projects.</p>
8.	Procedure to Conduct the Colloquium
	<p>Upon submission of three satisfactory RAC reports for a full-time PhD candidate, and four satisfactory RAC reports for a part-time PhD candidate, the research scholar is eligible to proceed for a Pre Thesis Submission Colloquium.</p> <p>Before submitting the dissertation / thesis, the Ph.D. scholar shall make a presentation before the RAC, which shall also be open to all faculty members and other research scholars/students of RVU. This is termed the Pre Thesis Submission Colloquium. The notification regarding the colloquium will be issued by the Dean - Research.</p> <p>The feedback / observations obtained from the participants may be reviewed and, if found appropriate, may be suitably incorporated into the draft dissertation/thesis in consultation with RAC members.</p> <p>The research scholars is required to submit his / her / their doctoral thesis within a maximum of 6 months from the date of the conduct of the colloquium.</p>
9.	Submission of Ph.D. Dissertation
	<p>(A) After the dissertation is evaluated by the supervisor for its correctness and compliance in terms of content and publication requirements, the research scholar shall submit the soft copy of the draft dissertation for a plagiarism check and for other compliance checks to ensure that there is no academic dishonesty.</p> <p>(B) If the dissertation is not accepted after the plagiarism check, the research scholar shall make necessary changes and re-submit the soft copy of the dissertation. This procedure shall be applied till the plagiarism level is below the limit specified by the University.</p> <p>(C) The Ph.D. scholar shall submit the final soft copy of the thesis for evaluation, along with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) An undertaking from the Ph.D. scholar that there is no plagiarism (ii) A certificate from the research supervisor attesting to the originality of the thesis and that the thesis has not been submitted for the award of any other degree/diploma to any other Institution / University.
10.	Evaluation of Ph.D. Dissertation
	<p>(A) The Ph.D. thesis shall be evaluated by the research supervisor and at least two external examiners, who are experts in the field and not in the employment of RV University. The examiners shall not be members of any RAC of the University.</p>

	<p>(B) One of the examiners shall preferably be from outside the country and the other from any other university or organization in India.</p> <p>(C) If both the external evaluators' reports are satisfactory with a recommendation to conduct the public viva-voce, then the same shall be organized by the supervisor/ guide.</p> <p>(D) If one of the external examiners recommends rejection, the University shall arrange to send the dissertation to a third examiner, from the approved panel of examiners. If the report of the third examiner is satisfactory, the public viva-voce shall be organized by the RAC. If the report of the third examiner is also unsatisfactory, the thesis shall be rejected and the PhD Scholar shall be declared ineligible for the award of a PhD.</p> <p>(E) The viva-voce board consists of the Research Supervisor and at least one of the two external members, and the viva-voce may be conducted online. The viva-voce shall be open to the members of the RAC, the faculty members, research scholars and students of RVU, and the general public.</p> <p>(F) The University shall complete the entire process of evaluating a Ph.D. thesis, including the declaration of the viva-voce result, within a period of six months from the date of submission of the dissertation.</p>
11.	Award of Ph.D. Degree Certificate
	<p>(A) Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and before the announcement of the award of the Ph.D. degree, the University shall submit an electronic copy of the thesis to INFLIBNET.</p> <p>(B) Prior to the actual award of the degree, the University shall issue a 'Provisional Ph.D. Degree Certificate' in accordance with the provisions of UGC Regulations 2022.</p> <p>(C) The degree of 'Doctor of Philosophy in the Field of Specialization' shall be conferred on the research scholar on the day of the Convocation.</p> <p>Award of degrees to candidates registered for the Ph.D. programme on or after July 11, 2009, till the date of Notification of these Regulations shall be governed by the provisions of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2009 or the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016, or the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022, as the case may be.</p>



12 FEE STRUCTURE

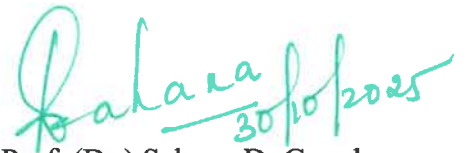
		PART TIME**	FULL TIME++
		All Amounts are in Indian Rupees (INR)	
SN	TYPE OF FEE		
1	Application Fees & Entrance Test	1000	1000
2	Provisional Registration Fees	4000	4000
3	Annual Fee	40,000	25,000
4.	Dissertation Evaluation & Ph.D. Viva-Voce Fees	25000	25000

** A part time Ph.D. student shall pay an Annual Fees of Rs. 40,000/year for **4 years** (stipulated period for completing the Ph.D. from the date of provisional registration) for each additional year (late submission) the fee is annual fee + Rs. 20,000/ year (late submission fee).

++ A full time Ph.D. student shall pay and Annual Fees of Rs. 25,000/year for **3 years** (stipulated period for completing the Ph.D. from the date of provisional registration) for each additional year (late submission) the fee annual fee + Rs.10,000/year (late submission fee).


29/10/2025

Prof. (Dr.) Lakshmi Arya Thathachar
Dean – Research, RVU


30/10/2025

Prof. (Dr.) Sahana D. Gowda
Registrar, RVU



Prof. (Dr.) Ram Kumar Kakani
Vice Chancellor, RVU