

## PhD Course Work

According to the amended Ph.D Ordinance, every PhD student (from the 2017 admissions onwards) will be required to do one course which is in two parts. This course is specifically designed for PhD students and will be convened by the supervisor.

**RAC:** All students will have a Research Advisory Council (RAC) comprising the supervisor and two additional faculty members, chosen by the supervisor. The RAC will grade each of the two parts of the course and they will function as advisors available to the student for the duration of her/his enrollment in the PhD programme. Marks for the PhD course A+B will each be out of 100 with 55% as the passing grade. The final marks will be scaled down until Part A = 30% of the total grade and Part B = 70%. Students are required to pass Part A before they can do Part B. They must pass Part B before they can commence their research work. If they fail they will get another final chance to clear these papers failing which they are required to withdraw from the PhD programme.

The two part course that newly enrolled students are required to take is as follows:

### **Part A – Research Methodology I:**

The duration of this course will be 4 weeks. It will consist of an intensive reading of methodologically significant historical writing and/or engagement with research methods and tools.

This is a one-month course and for this batch it will run from December 1<sup>st</sup>- January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018 (the winter break will not count). This course will be conducted by the Supervisor and the RAC will be accessible for consultation. At the end of the course, the student will submit an essay of about 4000 words. The RAC will be convened by the supervisor for the purpose of grading the paper. The RAC will use the attached proforma course sheet to record the number and nature of the readings used in the course and the final grades. This course sheet will be kept with the student's records in the Department office for eventual submission to the Board of Research Studies.

### **Part B – Research Methodology II:**

The duration of this course will be 12 weeks. Each supervisor will formulate a course that will be a combination of primary and secondary sources taking into consideration the specialization of the PhD. student.

This 3-month course should run between February 1<sup>st</sup> – April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018. This course will be conducted by the supervisor, who should design and record the outline of the readings for the course. The student will be required to write an essay of about 8000 words (or more). It will be evaluated by the Research Advisory Committee which would accord the final marks. There will be a 2-3 day seminar in early May, where all the students admitted in 2017 will present this paper for collegial peer review. The supervisors of all the students will be present. Each paper will have a student as interlocutor to introduce the student, start the discussion and then coordinate the question and answer session. The

seminar presentation is compulsory but not graded. All grading for the course will be done by the RAC who will use the attached proforma course sheet to record the number and nature of the readings used in the course and the final grades. This course sheet will be kept with the student's records in the Department office for eventual submission to the Board of Research Studies.

Please note the following details from the PhD Ordinance:

- The duration of the Ph.D programme is 6 years from the date of your enrollment. A 6 month extension will be given on the recommendation of the supervisor. This will have to be passed by the Department Research Council (DRC) and the Board of Research Studies (BRS) of the Social Sciences Faculty.
- Students are required to make two paper presentations between years 2-5 of their enrollment and they must submit documentary proof of participation to the Department office.
- 6 monthly reports of academic progress have to be presented and signed by each RAC. These will be periodically placed before the DRC and kept in each student's file in the Department Office. This file must be complete in all respects when it is sent to the BRS for the appointment of dissertation examiners.
- By year 5 ½ of each student's enrollment they must have a publication in a peer review journal, or a proof of acceptance, failing which your dissertation will not be sent to your examiners.
- Six-month before the submission of the dissertation each student is required to give a pre-PhD seminar
- Please remember the PhD programme has very strict rules concerning plagiarism. All dissertations will go through a plagiarism check software called Scopus.