

**School of Development Studies**  
**Ambedkar University Delhi**  
**PhD Admissions 2017**

**KEY DATES:**

**Deadline for Submission of Application Forms – 10 July 2017**

**List of candidates eligible for entrance exam to be uploaded by – 18 July 2017**

**Entrance Exam – 24 July 2017**

**List of candidates eligible for interview to be uploaded by - 27 July 2017 (TBC)**

**Date for Interviews – 31 July 2017**

The School of Development Studies (SDS) at Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD) was established in 2008. The School works with the aim of promoting and strengthening social science research and teaching with an inter-disciplinary approach, drawing on the disciplines of Sociology, Anthropology, Economics and Political Science. Further information on the School is available on the SDS web pages <see [www.aud.ac.in](http://www.aud.ac.in)>.

SDS invites applications for doctoral research in Development Studies, on themes including Labour Relations and Development; Entrepreneurship and Society; Peace, Conflict and Development; Gender and Development; Social Policy and Development; Social Movements and Development.

**Admission process and eligibility**

The SDS Doctoral Program will offer up to **six** seats for a PhD in Development Studies in the 2017-18 academic year (including reservations in accordance with the Government of NCT of Delhi norms). These seats are to be filled by candidates meeting the eligibility criteria for the program and with satisfactory performance in each step of the admission process (ie evaluation of the research proposal, entrance test, and interview).

The PhD program is open to **1)** applicants who already hold an MPhil degree in Development Studies / Sociology / Anthropology / Political Science / Economics / or allied subjects with strong Social Science training; and **2)** applicants who hold an MA/MSc in Development Studies or allied subjects / Economics / Political Science / Sociology or a relevant Masters' degree with strong Social Science training, who have scholarly publications to their credit; or who have displayed special aptitude for research, such as by way of completion of a good quality research thesis (or a project of comparable scope).

Applicants must meet general eligibility criteria prescribed by the University for doctoral degrees. These include an MA/MSc from a recognised institution with marks greater than or equal to 55% (or marks of equivalent grade or class). For applicants not belonging to the General category adjustment of these norms and criteria will follow Government of NCT Delhi norms.

Applicants are required to submit a research proposal (of five to six double spaced pages) along with their application form, without which the application will be summarily rejected. The proposal should indicate the rationale for the proposed research, with reference to existing literature on allied themes; its key questions and objectives and the research methods that the candidate proposes to use. **Note that electronic copies of the submitted proposal (in PDF or word format) must necessarily be e-mailed to <babu[at]aud.ac.in> no later than 10 July 2017, without which the application will be summarily rejected.**

**Candidates' proposed research should align with the specialisations of SDS Faculty. Applicants are therefore encouraged to consult faculty profiles on the AUD website.**

**It may be noted that only shortlisted candidates will be invited for the written test. After the written test, another shortlist will be announced for candidates eligible for the interview that will follow.**

For shortlisted candidates, performance on the entrance test will carry a weightage of 50 per cent. There will be 25 percent weightage for the interview and 25 percent weightage for the research proposal (to be submitted with the application, by the deadline of 10 July 2017).

The entrance test will comprise essay questions broadly on themes of historical and contemporary development. It will be expected that candidates will respond to the questions from a critical social sciences perspective. The interview will be in part based on the proposal submitted by the candidate.

Satisfactory performance in the admission procedure requires obtaining a minimum of 55% marks (combined) for the proposal, the entrance test and the interview for General Category students and 50% for students from Reserved Categories.

### **Supervisory arrangement**

Selected candidates will be assigned Supervisors from amongst SDS faculty members after the offer of admission has been made to the candidate. In addition, Doctoral Advisory Committees (DACs), typically comprising three AUD faculty members, will be constituted for each PhD candidate. Overall monitoring and management of the doctoral program will be done by the SDS Research Studies Committee (RSC). Co-Supervision arrangements with external scholars who have recognised academic credentials will be considered in exceptional circumstances, ie, if the School is convinced that the engagement of an external scholar will significantly enhance the quality of the doctoral candidate's work.

### **Coursework**

The coursework guidelines for SDS are guided by the SDS PhD Rules and AUD Research Studies Regulations. Candidates who are admitted to the doctoral program and who do not have an MPhil

degree will be required to complete 16 credits of coursework within a period of two semesters, by choosing from an appropriate combination of available two or four credit courses, in keeping with Rules laid down in the SDS PhD Rules. An extension for completion of coursework, beyond the period of two semesters will be available only in exceptional circumstances, and only with the permission of the RSC.

It may be noted that the SDS Research Studies Committee reserves the right to recommend appropriate coursework even for candidates who do have an existing MPhil degree. Candidates must note that the coursework presumes a candidates' residence in Delhi and full time engagement with the PhD program, and related activities organised at the University, including for instance seminar presentations by invited scholars.

Candidates will be expected to defend the final versions of their research proposals by the end of the third semester of their enrolment (extendable in exceptional circumstances to five semesters). As per AUD PhD Rules, the SDS RSC will reserve the right to recommend cancellation of enrolment of candidates who do not progress as per requirements.

**Further instructions and important information for candidates -**

1. Candidates should note that the SDS doctoral program presumes full time engagement by doctoral candidates with their research work. After completion of coursework within two semesters, candidates will be required to defend their detailed research proposals as mentioned above. The normal total duration of enrolment of a candidate in the PhD program will be as per the AUD Research Studies Regulations.
2. Candidates are encouraged to get in touch with SDS faculty members in relation to their research proposals prior to submitting their application forms.
3. Electronic copies ('Word' or 'PDF' format) of the proposal submitted with the application form must necessarily be e-mailed to <babu[at]aud.ac.in> by the final date on which applications will be accepted.
4. Candidates are requested to check the AUD website <[www.aud.ac.in](http://www.aud.ac.in)> on a regular basis, for any further instructions that may be uploaded in relation to the entrance exam and the admission process.