PhD Programme
2019-2024

Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD)
(Established by the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi)
Lothian Road, Kashmere Gate, Delhi- 110 006

SCHOOL OF HUMAN ECOLOGY

Research at the School of Human Ecology (SHE) brings together ideas, methodologies and toolkits from various disciplines in the natural sciences and social sciences to the interdisciplinary study of complex socio-ecological issues at multiple spatial scales.

The School's thematic focus areas include environmental change, biodiversity conservation, rural and urban transformations, environmental and social impact assessment and health.

Research at SHE deploys quantitative, qualitative and geospatial methodological frameworks, with the aim of understanding complexity and causality in the intertwined lives of humans and other species, to contribute to the 'big questions' of justice, well-being and sustainability in local, empirical contexts.

PHD ADMISSIONS 2019

Applications are invited for PhD in the fields of Applied Ecology, Political Ecology, Natural Resource Management, Land Use Change, Rural and Agrarian Change, Environment and Public Health.

SEATS: 10 (UR:1; OBC:4; SC:3; ST:2)

ELIGIBILITY

- Candidates must have already obtained an MPhil degree, or in addition to holding an MSc/MA degree, have displayed special research aptitude (such as completion of a research thesis or project of comparable scope from a recognised University, or have a comparable record of scholarly publications).

- They must have passed with at least 55% or an equivalent grade in the last academic degree.
- They must obtain a combined minimum score of 55% in the proposal assessment, entrance test and interview for unreserved category candidates (with appropriate relaxation for candidates from reserved categories).
- The weight of the **Research Proposal** is 25%, the **Entrance Test** is 50% and the **Interview** is 25%
- Candidates' proposed research should align with the specializations of SHE faculty. The School reserves the right to decline admission to candidates in cases where the topic does not align with specialization and/or research interests of SHE faculty.
- Each research proposal will be put through plagiarism-check software. *Cases of plagiarism are grounds for summary disqualification of a candidate's application.*

Research Proposal: A write-up of up to five double-spaced pages (Times New Roman font size 12) should be submitted with the application. It should give a background of the proposed research, its questions/ objectives, a description of the chosen conceptual frameworks, and the historical-geographical context of the research.

Entrance Test: It will comprise essay questions addressing contemporary issues at the interface

of environment and human society. It will presume an ability to respond to the questions from a broad social sciences perspective. Expected readings will be circulated beforehand. Relaxation in marks for reserved categories shall be as per the norms prescribed by the Government of NCT of Delhi.

Applicants are encouraged to consult faculty profiles on the AUD website and write to them to discuss alignment with their specializations and/or research interests.

APPLICATION DATES*
On-line Application: Till 8 July 2019
Entrance Test: 23 July 2019
Interview: 24 July 2019

SUPERVISORY ARRANGEMENTS

A Supervisor from SHE shall be assigned after the offer of an admission has been made. A Research Advisory Committee (RAC) would be constituted for each scholar, which would meet regularly to recommend coursework and monitor the research scholar's progress during the programme. Candidates are encouraged to discuss their proposed research with possible supervisors at AUD before beginning the application process.
Co-supervisory arrangements are possible with experts and scholars outside the School or even outside AUD, provided they have recognised academic credentials, and the Research Studies Committee (RSC) of the School should be convinced that the involvement of this person

would significantly enhance the quality of the doctoral scholar's research.

COURSE WORK

Candidates are required to complete a minimum of 16 credits of course work within a period of two semesters as prescribed by the Research Studies Committee (RSC) of the School. The RSC may choose to relax coursework requirements for admitted doctoral scholars already holding MPhil. Additional coursework and pre-submission activities could be prescribed to a doctoral scholar by the RSC, according to the scholar's particular research requirements, on the basis of the recommendation of the candidate's RAC. Participation in course work presumes a scholar's residence in Delhi region during the officially recognised academic year/ sessions and the scholar's regular attendance of classes and related exercises. Exceptions to the 'residency requirement' can only be made under special conditions by the RSC.

MONITORING PROGRESS OF PHD CANDIDATE

The duration of the doctoral scholar's enrolment is subject to the general research studies regulations of AUD. Scholars enrolling with MPhil may submit a dissertation for examination no sooner than 18 months following enrolment, while those enrolling without MPhil may submit it no sooner than 24 months after enrolment.

The supervisor and the SHE Research Studies Committee (RSC) will monitor four milestones during the PhD process: (1) Successful completion of coursework: normally within 18 months of enrolment; (2) Presentation and defense of research synopsis: normally between 18 and 24 months after enrolment; (3) Pre-dissertation public viva to be arranged by the SHE RSC; and (4) PhD defense in presence of AUD supervisor, co-supervisor (if any), thesis examiners, and any other invited experts

FEES: Rs. 1,680 per credit for Course Work or Rs. 6370/- per semester during Research/ Dissertation + Rs.500 per semester for Student Welfare Fund + Rs.5,000 as refundable Security Deposit

Partial/full fee waivers and scholarships are available.

STIPEND: As decided by the AUD-Standing Committee Research from time to time. At present, PhD candidates are eligible for a stipend of Rs.8,000 p.m. for a maximum duration of 3 years, subject to work progress.

HOSTEL: AUD has about 40 seats for women in its hostel at Kashmere Gate

*Please consult the website www.aud.ac.in from time to time for further entrance related details and updates, or write to: hemlata@aud.ac.in, or call the SHE Office at +91-11-2386 4876.