

School of Letters (SoL)
Dr B R Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD)
(Established by the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi)
Lothian Road, Kashmere Gate, Delhi- 110 006

Bulletin of Information

PhD Programme in Comparative Literature and Translation Studies Admissions 2020-2021

School of Letters (SOL)

The School of Letters at Ambedkar University Delhi offers a range of interdisciplinary courses and programmes in the literary humanities that support, encourage and redefine the meanings of literature, culture, language and humanism in both historical and contemporary perspectives.

PhD Programme in CLTS (Comparative Literature and Translation Studies)

Rabindranath Tagore famously translated “Comparative Literature” into Bengali as “*visva sahitya*” or world literature. The choice of the term *sahitya* for literature reveals the possibilities of comparative studies of literature in our part of Asia. Comparison is not just comparing disparate objects but nurturing a conceptual space in which the imagination can be confronted with otherness. The aim of the PhD programme in Comparative Literature and Translation Studies (CLTS for short) is precisely to turn literature into an experience of that otherness, which both questions and redraws the sense of culture, nation and identity. While close-reading skills in the original will be a key aspect of the comparatist–translator’s brief, researchers in our PhD programme may also choose to bring literary studies in close dialogue with other disciplines from the humanities and social sciences. The programme encourages the practice of translation and recognizes its significance in ways that will promote the reading and dissemination of literatures in as many languages as possible, with a focus on Indian and other South Asian literary cultures.

Doctoral scholars currently enrolled in the program have developed valuable research profiles with active participation in prestigious conferences both in India and abroad, academic bodies, scholarly translations and publications in peer-reviewed journals.

Program Details and Requirements

- The PhD programme strictly adheres to the rules and regulations of the University Grants Commission, as they are enforced and revised from time to time. The current regulations in force can be found [here](#).
- The PhD programme is guided by the research studies ordinance and regulations of the University, which can be found [here](#).
- Minimum duration of three years and maximum duration is six years. Extensions and relaxations are applicable as per PhD Regulations 2021 that can be found [here](#).
- PhD scholars are required to complete a course work of **16 credits** in the first year (**two semesters**) of admission, including a taught course on Research Methodology. Course work is prescribed by the Research Studies Committee (RSC) of the School.
- The course work in PhD CLTS includes taught courses in the core disciplinary areas and in research methodology. Taught elective courses and/or guided research papers will also be a part of the coursework.
- Candidates already holding M. Phil. degree and admitted to the Ph.D. programme, or those who have already completed the course work in M.Phil. and have been permitted to proceed to the Ph.D. in integrated course, may be exempted by the School Research Studies Committee (RSC) from the Ph.D. course work. All other candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be required to complete the Ph.D. course work prescribed by the School.
- 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 academic activities.
- A doctoral supervisor is appointed from the School within a year of admission to the programme. Experts and scholars with academic credentials from outside the School or university can be appointed as co-supervisors in case the candidate requires additional or specialized guidance.
- A Research Advisory Committee (RAC) is appointed for every candidate, with the supervisor as the convener of the committee. The RAC advises the candidate and monitors her/his/ their progress in the PhD program.
- Every candidate is expected to complete the **six milestones** of the PhD program
 - Course work
 - Presentation and defence of a research synopsis
 - Pre-submission presentation
 - Pre-submission requirements of conference presentations and publication
 - Production of an original thesis

- Viva-voce examination of the PhD thesis

Fees

- Rs. 1,680/- per credit for coursework, and
- Rs. 6,370/- per semester during Research/ Dissertation
- Rs. 500/- per semester for Student Welfare Fund
- Rs. 5,000/- as refundable Security Deposit
- Partial/full fee waivers are available as per University norms.

Stipend for Research Scholars

- At present, all PhD candidates who are not drawing any other scholarship/ fellowship are eligible for a stipend of Rs. 16,000/- per month for a maximum duration of three (03) years, subject to satisfactory work progress in every semester. The amount and duration may be revised by the University from time to time.
- “AUD Research Excellence Scholarship” will be awarded to 25 meritorious candidates in the University, commensurate with UGC-JRF (Social Sciences and Humanities) fellowships. Other scholarships and research internships may be announced by the university from time to time.
- PhD candidates may be employed as Teaching Assistants subject to need of the School and the approval of their supervisors and Chair RSC. Teaching Assistants will be paid a remuneration as per University norms.

Hostel

- AUD has about 40 seats for women candidates in its hostel at Kashmere Gate
- Details of admission to the hostel can be found [here](#).

Admission to the Ph.D. Programme (2020—2021)

Potential applicants to the PhD program are encouraged to familiarize themselves with research specializations at the School and get in touch with faculty members at the stage of applications. The research profiles of doctoral supervisors are available [here](#) and [here](#).

Areas of Research

- ✓ Literary relations in South Asia
- ✓ Translation studies and practices
- ✓ The lyric in a comparative frame
- ✓ Literary history as a genre of writing and thought
- ✓ Women’s writing in South Asian languages

Seats

- Total **02** | UR 01 | OBC 01 Foreign Student (Supernumerary) 01
- Reservations are as per rules of the university and orders of the Government of NCT of Delhi, as applicable from time to time.
- Candidates' proposed research should align with the specializations of the CLTS Programme faculty at SOL. The School reserves the right to decline admission to candidates in cases where the topic does not align with faculty specializations or the School does not possess the necessary infrastructural requirements/ laboratories.

Eligibility

- Master's degree or a professional degree declared equivalent to the Master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in the ten-point scale or an equivalent degree from or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 7-point scale (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) or an equivalent degree from a foreign educational Institution accredited by an Assessment and Accreditation Agency which is approved, recognised or authorised by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country for the purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions.
- A relaxation of 5% of marks, from 55% to 50%, or an equivalent relaxation of grade, is allowed for applicants belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/ Persons with Disability categories.

Procedure for Admission

- The admission to the PhD program is based on a two-stage process consisting of an Entrance Test and a Personal Interview.
- Applicants are required to submit an original Research Proposal with a relevant and substantial bibliography at the time of online application.
- The research proposal must clearly delineate the tentative research theme/focus/area which the applicant proposes to study. The research proposal should give a background of the proposed research, its broad questions/ objectives and a brief description of the relevant theoretical/conceptual frameworks. The word limit for the research proposal is 2500 words (excluding the bibliography).
- The proposed area of research must align with the research interests of the faculty of the PhD programme faculty.
- Applicants are required to apply online on the admissions portal of the University with relevant documents.
- In view of the Covid-19 pandemic, the admission process, entrance test and interview will follow the format (online or offline) as decided by the University from time to time. Applicants are strongly advised to regularly check the [University Admissions website](#) regularly for details, updates and modifications.

- The Entrance Test shall be qualifying with qualifying marks as 50%. The syllabus of the Entrance Test shall consist of 50% of research methodology and 50% shall be subject specific.
- The Entrance Test will comprise of two long-answer subjective-type questions: (i) based on a set of discipline-specific readings which will be uploaded on the University admissions website, and (ii) a general question about methodology of literary study. The test will presume an ability to respond to the questions from a broad perspective in the literary humanities.
- An interview will be organized for the qualified applicants. The applicants are required to discuss their research interest/ area through a presentation of their research proposal before the Ph.D. Programme Faculty and RSC. The interview/viva voce shall consider the following:
 - I. whether the applicant possesses competence in the proposed research area.
 - II. whether the research can be undertaken at the School.
 - III. whether the proposed area of research can contribute to new/additional knowledge in the field.
- The Entrance Test shall be of 70% weightage and performance in the interview shall carry a weight of 30%.
- The interview, the Entrance Test and exemptions from the Entrance Test are guided by the Regulations Relating to the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, 2021 that can be found [here](#).

Important Dates

- The timelines related to the admissions process, date of Entrance Test and Personal Interview, and venue of the Test and Interview, and declaration of merit list will be announced on the University admissions website.

Fees for Applications

<i>(SC,ST, PwD)</i>	<i>(UR, OBC,EWS)</i>
<i>340 INR</i>	<i>700 INR</i>

IMPORTANT

Please consult the [University admissions website](#) regularly for details and updates.

For any queries, write to Dr Shad Naved, Programme Coordinator, Ph.D. Comparative Literature and Translation Studies at pcelts@aud.ac.in.