

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 (English)
Admissions 2020-2021

School of Letters (SoL)

School of Letters is currently home to postgraduate studies and research in English, Hindi, Comparative Literature and Translation Studies. It offers a wide range of interdisciplinary, diverse and overlapping programmes that support and encourage literary, linguistic, folkloric and cultural studies through a deep engagement with new and often, non-canonical critical approaches and methodologies.

PhD Programme in English

The distinguishing feature of the Research Programme offered by the English faculty at Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD) is that students shall be encouraged to pursue inter- or multi-disciplinary research based on the assumption that the concerns raised in literary texts often find resonances or analogies in other disciplines. The faculty shall make every effort to create an intellectual environment in which a researcher has the confidence and freedom to challenge canonically accepted critical positions and methodologies.

The rationale behind any research undertaken in this programme shall be to understand how a literary or cultural text is profoundly influenced by art, politics, style, history, psychology, image-making, translations and technologies that define the spirit of the age in which literary production happens.

Literary research in the contemporary world should, therefore, be inspired sometimes by present anxieties and discontents, sometimes by new areas of knowledge and visions of a different future; it should re-establish, for its own time and location, the truth or the enigma of any text; and, finally, it should claim its place in the same cultural and moral habitat in which other acts of reason and imagination take place.

The **English PhD programme** seeks to train scholars in inter-disciplinary methodologies and engaged research. The researcher is expected to gain a thorough understanding of the critical and theoretical universe/notions related to her research. Apart from inculcating acute critical thinking and reading skills, the programme will facilitate academic writing and develop varied perspectives on a wide range of literary and cultural productions. Since the vision of the

programme is founded on a broad and expansive understanding of ‘the text’ and literature itself, the ultimate gain from this programme would be an ability to read, question, analyse and formulate one’s responses to cultural productions and the processes behind these productions.

Program Details and Requirements

- The PhD program 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 program is guided by the research studies ordinance and regulations of the University, which can be found [here](#).
- The Programme covers a minimum duration of three years and maximum duration of six years. Extensions and relaxations are applicable as per PhD Regulations 2021 that can be found [here](#).
- Doctoral candidates are required to complete a course work of **16 credits** in the first year (**two semesters**) of admission, including course(s) on Research Methodology. Course work is prescribed by the Research Studies Committee (RSC) of the School.
- 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 program. 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 defense 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

Course-Work

- The researcher will be expected to complete four courses, of which two would be compulsory courses common to all entrants in a particular academic year. Of the remaining two courses, the researcher shall be expected to choose one course offered by any programme of the university. The fourth course shall be designed to enable each researcher to engage in a study programme specific to the area of exploration.

SOL3EN201: Discerning Research Methods

Course II: Open Elective

SOL3EN203: Conceptual and Philosophical Frameworks in Asian Traditions

SOL3EN204: Guided Reading

Assessment and Evaluation:

- Assessment will include term papers, class presentations, class discussions, class participation, workshops, group discussions, tests, assignments and response papers. The researchers may also be required to submit a comprehensive research paper at the end of each semester. The course coordinators may devise other assessment situations as they may deem fit. Enrolled scholars are expected to attend all classes and participate in all class discussions.

Fees

- Rs. 1,680/- per credit for Course Work, 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](#)

Research Interests and Areas of the English faculty

- Critical Theory
- Cultural Studies
- Diaspora Studies
- Gender Studies
- Indian Theatre and Performance
- Life-writing and Memory Studies
- Literary Forms
- Literature of Protest and Resistance
- Literatures of Childhood
- Literatures of Europe and Russia
- Literatures of the African and Australian Continents
- Literatures of the Indian Subcontinent
- Marginalized Literatures from the American Continent
- Multiculturalism and Diaspora Studies
- Orality, Folklore and Indigenous Cultures
- Partition Literature
- Postcolonial Literatures
- Shakespeare Studies
- Subaltern and Dalit Studies
- Translation and Adaptation studies
- Visual Cultures and Cinema Studies

Seats

- Total 05 | UR 03 | OBC 01 | SC 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 English 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.

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 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 Research proposal (2000-2500 words) should follow the following format:
 1. Introduction: Research Area
 2. Aims and Objectives
 3. Research Question
 4. Existing Research in the area
 5. Research Approach/Methodology
 6. Bibliography
- The proposed area of research must align with the research interests of the faculty of the English PhD programme.
- 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 written entrance examination shall evaluate a candidate’s research aptitude, capacity for critical thinking and the ability to write a coherent argument in English. A section of the entrance test will be based on the readings uploaded on the website.
- 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 (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. Bhoomika Meiling, Programme Coordinator, Ph.D English at pcresenglish@aud.ac.in