Bulletin of Information
PhD Programme (Urban Studies) 2021—2022

School of Global Affairs (SGA)

SGA offers a range of interdisciplinary, diverse and overlapping programmes in global studies, urban studies and public health that support, encourage and redefine liberal arts education through a number of interdisciplinary courses, participatory pedagogy and teaching-learning processes.

PhD Programme in Urban Studies

The School of Global Affairs offers admission on an annual basis to a PhD Programme in Urban Studies which emphasizes the development of research competency. Research scholars shall acquire or improve skills for effective review of and engagement with scholarship in their chosen areas of research. They are helped to discover and apply methodologies necessary to carry out original research through a variety of sources with a view to evolving interdisciplinary and connected engagement with Urban Studies. Research scholars will actively contribute to the intellectual life of the University through regular communication about research work with faculty and fellow students. The main output of Urban Studies research scholars' efforts will be a thesis.

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.
- Minimum duration of the PhD programme is **three years** and maximum duration is **six years**. Extensions and relaxations are applicable as per PhD Regulations 2021 that can be found here.
- Doctoral candidates are required to complete 16 credits of course-work. Of this, 8 credits of core courses must be completed in the first semester. In the second semester, the student must complete two 4-credit elective courses either offered

within the school or by other programmes at the university with the approval of a provisional Academic Advisor.

- Course work is prescribed by the Research Studies Committee (RSC) of the School.
- The courses required for all PhD Urban Studies scholars are as follows:
  - Foundations of Urban Studies (Core Course, 4 credits, Monsoon Semester).
  - Methods for Urban Research (Core Course, 4 credits, Monsoon Semester).
  - Elective 1 (4 credits, Winter Semester).
  - Elective 2 (4 credits, Winter Semester).

- All the 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.
- Each student admitted to the programme will be assigned a provisional Academic Advisor based on mutual interests of the students and respective faculty members. The provisional Academic Advisor will guide the student regarding the course work to be undertaken based on the research interests of the student.
- 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

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 (2021—2022)

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

Areas of Research

1. Urban History, Heritage
2. Urban Policy and Governance
3. Urban Politics and Social Movements
4. Urban Environment and Ecology
5. Economy and Livelihoods
6. Housing and Infrastructures
7. Rural Urban Interactions/Linkages

Seats

- **Indian National Seats- 5, Foriegn National- 1**
- Reservations are as per the 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 Urban Studies Programme Faculty of SGA. 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 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.
- 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 Admissionswebsite](#)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 subjective and objective-type questions based broadly on understanding of social sciences, humanities, urban issues, theoretical and conceptual framework.

- An interview will be organized for the qualified applicants. 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

(SC,ST, PwD)	(UR, OBC,EWS)
340 INR	700 INR

IMPORTANT
Please consult the University admissions website regularly for details and updates. For any queries, write to Dr. Pritpal Randhawa, at pritpal@aud.ac.in

Regulations Concerning Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.):

https://aud.ac.in/uploads/4/admission/admission-2022/rs/revised-regulations-concerning-degrees-of-doctor-of-philosophyphd.pdf