

VINAYAKA MISSIONS UNIVERSITY

Declared under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956

(Formerly VINAYAKA MISSIONS RESEARCH FOUNDATION DEEMED UNIVERSITY)

Accredited by NAAC



M.Phil (Full time) Degree Programme

REGULATIONS 2016-17

In accordance with the provisions of UGC Regulations 2016)

University Website: www.vinayakamission.com

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VINAYAKA MISSIONS UNIVERSITY, SALEM

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY (Full time)

1. TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT

These revised regulations shall be called “**REGULATIONS GOVERNING MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE PROGRAMME 2016**”. These revised regulations come into force with effect from the Academic year 2016-17 and are subject to such modifications as may be approved by the apex body of the University from time to time.

2. PREAMBLE

The degree of Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) shall be awarded to a candidate who, as per these regulations, successfully completed the course work and has submitted a dissertation on the basis of original and independent research that makes a contribution to advancement of knowledge, after being approved by duly constituted examiners as per norms.

3. GOVERNING GUIDELINES

The guidelines governing the award of Master of Philosophy Degree Programmes by the University are based on the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedures for the Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degree) Regulation 2016.

4. PROGRAMME CATEGORY

Full – Time M.Phil. Programme

4.1. Candidates under Full Time shall do both course work and research work in this University and shall be available at the assigned department of the University /Institution during the working hours for curricular, co-curricular and related activities and shall sign in an attendances register on all working days of the Institution, subject to availing leave as per the leave provisions that remain in currently for teaching staff of the Institution.

4.2. Candidates in employment, who want to pursue Full-Time studies should be sponsored by their employer with leave for the research period and should get formally relieved from their duty to join the research programme.

5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Candidates for admission to the M.Phil.(Full Time) programme shall have a 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 'B' in the UGC 7-point scale (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed).

A relaxation of 5% of marks, from 55% to 50%, or an equivalent relaxation of grade, may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC(non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time, or for those who had obtained their Master's degree prior to 19th September, 1991.

6. DURATION OF THE PROGRAMME

The duration of M.Phil., (Full-time) shall be 12 months spreading over 2 semesters. The candidate is required to spend the prescribed period of 12 months in the concerned department of the University. The programme, including submission of dissertation shall be completed within a maximum period of 2 years.

No registration shall be permissible beyond the period of 2 years from the date of admission to the programme. Extension beyond the limits shall be governed by the relevant clauses as stipulated in the ordinance of the University from time to time.

6.1. Place of Research

For full time M. Phil research scholars, the place of research will be the department and the institution where the supervisor works.

7. Admission

The university will release advertisement in leading dailies and university websites at appropriate time with the number of vacancies. The application form can be downloaded from university website www.vinayakamission.com. The filled in application to be submitted along with prescribed fee and the relevant certificates.

7.1. Admission shall be made through an Entrance Test / Interview conducted at the concerned department. However the candidates passed in UGC – NET (including JRF)/ UGC – CSIR NET (including JRF)/SLET/GATE/teacher fellowship holder or equivalent examinations are exempted from the entrance test, but have to appear for the interview.

7.2. The Entrance Test shall be with **qualifying marks as 50%**. The syllabus of the Entrance Test shall be of 50% research methodology and 50% subject specific. In interview the candidates are required to discuss their research interest/area through a presentation before Research Committee, constituted by the Head of the Institution. The interview shall also consider the following aspects, namely whether:

- a. The candidate possesses the competence for the proposed research
- b. The research work can be suitably undertaken at the Institution/ College.
- c. The proposed area of research can contribute to new/additional knowledge.

7.3. The Research Board constituted by the University shall determine the suitability of such candidates and the admission to the appropriate field, after giving due consideration to the performance in the entrance test, relevant inter – disciplinary fields of research, if any, and the faculty in which the candidate shall be registered, keeping in view the Research Supervisor lines/norms in this regard issued by the UGC and other statutory bodies concerned, and taking into account the reservation policy of the Central/State Government from time to time.

7.4. The University will maintain the list of all the M. Phil registered students on its website every year. The list shall include the name of the registered candidate, topic of his/ her research, name of his/ her supervisor /co-supervisor, etc.

Note:-

1. Candidates belonging to Scheduled Tribe / Scheduled Caste shall produce community certificate obtained from a competent authority not below the rank of a Revenue Divisional Officer.
2. Producing a false community, nativity or any other certificate, if detected later at any point of time during the course of study, will result in expulsion of the candidate and also criminal proceedings will be initiated against the candidate as well as the parents as per law.
3. Community certificate obtained from other states shall not be considered and such candidate shall be treated as to the **Open Category**, unless it is approved by Central government that it is applicable to other states as well.

8. ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENT

Research scholars of M.Phil. degree programme have to sign in the attendance register maintained in the department on all working days. Each student is expected to possess a minimum of 75% attendance (10% relaxation in attendance shall be permitted on valid reasons provided with the concurrence and permission of the Vice - Chancellor of the University on payment of prescribed fee) in each semester / year, failing which the candidate will not be permitted to appear for the examinations.

9. ALLOCATION OF RESEARCH SUPERVISOR

1. Full time regular teaching faculty members of the University holding Ph.D., degree shall supervise M.Phil., scholars as per their specialization and area of research.
2. A research supervisor who is a Professor, at a given point of time shall guide up to a maximum of three (3) M.Phil., scholars, an Associate Professor shall guide up to a maximum of two (2) M.Phil., scholars and an Assistant Professor shall guide up to a maximum of one (1) M.Phil., scholar. No supervisor shall have more than the specified number of M.Phil. scholars under him / her at any time.

3. A seat shall be deemed to be vacant under a supervisor only after the research scholar submits his / her dissertation.
4. Allocation of Research Supervisor for a selected research scholar shall be decided by the Department concerned depending on the number of scholars per Research Supervisor, the available specialization among the supervisors and research interests of the scholars.
5. Allocation of Research supervisor shall be approved by the University taking into consideration the area of research and specialization and as per the availability of research supervisors in VMU.

10. COURSE WORK

10.1.1. The syllabus for the course work of M.Phil. degree programme shall be approved by the Board of Studies. M.Phil., programme shall possess 3 theory courses of 6 credits each and dissertation followed by Viva – Voce examination for 12 credits spread over two semesters.

Part – I: Theory

- Course-I** - Research Methodology, which is common for all research candidates
- Course-II** - Area of Research
- Course-III** - Subject of specialization.

10.1.2. The prescribed course work of paper I & II shall normally be completed in the first semester and paper III shall be completed at the end of second semester.

10.1.3. All the above course works of the scholar are to be undertaken as per the academic norms and shall be evaluated as per the norms of the university.

10.1.4. No change in the prescribed course work shall be made without the approval of the Research Advisory Committee and the university.

10.1.5. The research scholar shall submit the prescribed application & fee for attending the final examination. The final examination for the course work is centralized and conducted by the Controller of Examinations along with the end semester examinations of other programmes. A research scholar has to obtain a minimum of **55% marks (equivalent Cumulative grade point average of 6.0 (B+))** in the course work in order to continue the research work.

10.1.6. If the candidate fails to get the minimum of 55% marks, then a grace period of maximum of six months shall be given at the end of which the research scholar shall be re-examined. Then, if found fit, the research scholar shall be permitted to proceed with the research work. Otherwise, the research scholar's provisional registration stands cancelled.

Part – II: Dissertation and Viva Voce

- a) On successful completion of the three theory courses, candidates are required to submit the dissertation on the topic of his/her research after 3 months within a period of two years from the date of commencement of M.Phil. Programme.
- b) After admitting M.Phil. research scholar, Research Advisory Committee shall be constituted immediately with concerned guide as the convenor and two other eligible research supervisors of the same/ allied department of the University as members. Constitution of the committee need to be informed to the Administration immediately through proper channel by the concerned guide. Research Advisory Committee meeting shall be held within 1 month after the admission of the candidate to the M.Phil programme to review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research and shall guide to develop the study design and research methodology. The committee shall periodically review and assist in the progress of research work of the scholar.

- c) Prior to the submission of dissertation, it shall be mandatory for the candidates to present at least one (1) paper in a conference / seminar / referred Journal and shall produce the evidence of the same. Candidates shall be entitled to submit M.Phil. dissertation within 3 months after the completion of one year from the date of joining the programme and after having been declared to have passed in all the three courses.
- e) The dissertation shall be written only in English except for other languages.
- f) One external examiner per specialization / discipline shall be selected from the panel of five external examiners as suggested by the research supervisor and appointed by the Controller of Examinations of the University.
- g) Dissertation shall be valued by the external examiner and the Research Supervisor separately for a maximum of 150 marks and the average of two scores shall be the marks of the candidate. Open Viva-Voce shall be conducted for a maximum of 50 marks which shall be awarded by the external examiner alone. The Viva-Voce examination shall be carried out at the place of the institute where the research work is carried out and shall be forwarded to the Controller of examinations by the Research Supervisor.
- h) If the external examiner who values the dissertation and recommendations for revision of dissertation, the candidate shall be advised to revise the dissertation in light of the suggestions made by the examiner and resubmit the dissertation, within one month.
- i) A candidate shall be declared to have passed Part - II Examination if he secures not less than 55% of marks in the dissertation and 55% of the marks in the Viva-Voce Examination.

11. AWARDING DEGREE

In order to be eligible for the award of the Degree of Master of Philosophy, a candidate shall have to obtain a minimum of 55 percent of the maximum marks (or) equivalent Cumulative grade point average of 6.0 (B+) and above in (1) each of the prescribed theory papers (2) dissertation and (3) Viva-Voce examination with the approval of the apex body of the University.

12. EQUIVALENT GRADE POINT AND LETTER GRADE

MARKS	GRADE POINT	LETTER GRADE	CLASS
95 – 100	10	O++	First Class with Distinction
90 – 94	9.5	O+	
85 – 89	9	O	
80 – 84	8.5	A++	
70 – 79	8	A+	
60 – 69	7	A	First Class
55 – 59	6	B+	Second Class
51 – 54	5.5	B	
40 – 50	5	C	Minimum Pass
AB			Reappear
RA			

13. CLASSIFICATION OF FINAL RESULT

The final result shall be classified based on the Cumulative Grade Point Average obtained by the candidates both in Part I (Theory Papers) and Part II (Dissertation and Viva Voce Examinations) in total.

14. DEPOSITORY WITH INFLIBNET

Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and before the announcement of the award of the M.Phil, an electronic copy of the M.Phil. dissertation shall be submitted to the INFLIBNET, for hosting the same so as to make it accessible to all Institutions/Colleges.