

Ref: JSS AHER/REG/RES/PHD/CME/290/2019-20

Date: 03.07.2025

COURSE WORK & PRE-PHD. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY EXAMINATION

(Amendments)

Applicable for April 2024 Batch onwards

15. Course Work & Pre-Ph.D. Research Methodology Examination

- 15.1 Coursework is a prerequisite for Ph.D. preparation and each candidate provisionally registered for a Ph.D. programme must undergo a minimum of 12 credits. The research methodology course, which is a four credit is compulsory for all disciplines of the Ph.D. programme.
- 15.2 Research and publication Ethics course as notified by UGC vide D.O.No.F.1-1/2018(Journal/CARE) IN 2019
- 15.3 The JSS AHER shall conduct the Course Work sessions involving the experts/ faculty of JSSAHER.
- 15.4 The candidate shall secure a minimum of 75% of attendance in the coursework classes to be eligible for the Pre-Ph.D. Methodology examination.
- 15.5 Pre-Ph.D. research methodology Examination common to all the provisionally registered candidates will be conducted twice a year.
- 15.6 Candidates should appear for the Pre-Ph.D. Methodology Examination after completion of nine months and not exceeding 15 months from the date of provisional registration.
- 15.7 If the candidate fails to appear for the Examination after the payment of the prescribed Examination fee, the candidate shall be declared fail. The fee paid will neither be refunded nor adjusted for the next examination. The candidate may re-appear for the next examination whenever conducted.
- 15.8 Extension of time to appear for the Examination is permitted. The candidate shall pay the prescribed extension fee and seek the extension. Extension beyond one year is not ordinarily permitted.
- 15.9 The examination shall consist of:
 - Paper-I Principles of Research Methodology (100 marks- 4 credits).
 - Paper -II Domain Specific Course (100 marks – 4 credits).
 - Paper-III Research and Publication Ethics Course work (50 Marks -2 credits)
 - Viva Voce (100 marks – 4 credits).

15.10 Paper-I: Principles of Research Methodology (100 marks)

The Course shall include:

- Fundamental Concepts of Research.
- Research Bioethics and Good Laboratory Practice.
- Fundamentals of Statistics.
- Advanced Statistical Methods for Quantitative and Qualitative Research.
- Computer Applications for Research.

15.11 Paper-II: Basics and Advances in Specific Research Area (100 marks)

Each guide shall prepare a detailed syllabus in consultation with DAC/RAC, for every candidate registered under him/her based on the specialization and area of research as per the framework prescribed. The same shall be submitted to the Office of COE within one month of the formation of DAC/RAC. There shall be five units with equal weightage covering the basics, methodology and advances in the specific research area of the candidate.

- Literature review of the selected research problem, this should be a review article/paper of the research problem/work.
- The methods/techniques involved to carry out the problem.
- Instruments/equipment/ tools involved to conduct the research.
- Specific Analysis and interpretation related to undertaken research work.
- Interpretation and Report Writing of the Research Work.
- A list of courses in the relevant area (from the Swayam portal/ online programmes) can be prescribed by the research supervisor in consultation with DAC/RAC.

Changes in the syllabus are not permitted after submission to the office of COE.

15.12 Paper-III: Research and Publication Ethics Course work (50 marks)

The Course shall include:

- RPE 01: Philosophy and Ethics
- RPE 02: Scientific Conduct
- RPE 03: Publication Ethics
- RPE 04: Open Access Publishing
- RPE 05: Publication Misconduct
- RPE 06: Databases and Research Metrics

15.13 Pre-Ph.D. Viva Voce examination (100 marks)

The following points must be assessed during the presentation and VIVA VOCE and credited accordingly:

- Quality of Literature Review and Novelty in the topic finalized for the Ph.D. work.
- Critical analysis of scientific literature.
- Relevance to the specialization.
- Understanding of the topic.
- Quality of Written and Oral presentation

The Viva-voce shall be conducted within Three weeks after the written examination. Pre-Ph.D. Viva Voce examination shall be conducted by the members of the DAC/RAC.

All Ph.D. scholars, irrespective of discipline, shall be required to train in teaching /education/pedagogy/ writing related to their chosen Ph.D. subject during their doctoral period. Ph.D. scholars may also be assigned 4-6 hours per week of teaching /research assistantship for conducting tutorial or laboratory work.

Further details regarding Ph.D. coursework are available on the JSSAHER website -Structure and details of Ph.D. coursework.

15.14 Successful Coursework Completion & Pre-Ph.D. Research Methodology Examination

A candidate shall secure a minimum of 50% marks in each component (Paper I, Paper II, Paper-III and Viva Voce) and an aggregate of a minimum of 60% or its equivalent grade in the UGC 10-point scale, to be declared successful in the Course Work & Methodology Examination. If the candidate fails to secure 60% percent of aggregate marks but has secured more than 60% in one or more component, he/she is exempted from re-appearing in only that component.

15.15 Unsuccessful Coursework/ Methodology Examination

- In case a candidate is not successful in the Methodology Examination on the first attempt, the candidate shall reappear in the subsequent examinations. If successful, the provisional registration shall be confirmed.
- A maximum of three re-examination attempts are permitted. A candidate who is unsuccessful even after three re-examinations attempts shall not be permitted to continue and he/she shall re-register.
- In case of valid medical emergencies, the candidate may be permitted to take another attempt with due permission and approval from the Vice-Chancellor.
- The candidate must complete coursework & methodology examination before submitting the synopsis.


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