



Chanakya National Law University

Nyaya Nagar, Mithapur, Patna-800001

Ph.D. / D.Phil. - General Regulations

As revised, modified and amended by the Academic Council on 25th September 2021
and 10th October 2023 and 24th March 2025)

- PROGRAMME FOR Ph.D. - DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN LAW
- DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN SOCIAL SCIENCES WITH LAW
- DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN HUMANITIES WITH LAW
- DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN SCIENCE OR ANY OTHER ALLIED SUBJECTS WITH LAW
- DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN SOCIAL SCIENCES (POLITICAL SCIENCE, ECONOMICS, SOCIOLOGY, HISTORY AND MANAGEMENT)
- DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN HUMANITIES (ENGLISH)
- D.Phil. - (GENERAL)

CNLU PROMOTES AND ENCOURAGES INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH AS PER THE NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY (NEP) 2020, IN WHICH TWO OR MORE DEPARTMENTS CONTRIBUTE TO INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

- Ph.D. will be full time residential programme as per the UGC guidelines.

1. ELIGIBILITY:

Candidates who passed:

- a. Master's Degree from a recognized University in any above discipline/s with a minimum of 55% marks or 50% marks in case of reserved candidates in the aggregate and
- b. Cleared NET/JRF or qualified for admission to Ph.D. only on the basis of UGC NET examination. Mere NET certificate does not guarantee admission. JRF candidate will be given preference.

"Eligibility criteria will be on the basis of and in conformity with University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.PHIL./PH.D Degrees) Regulations, 2016 vide UGC notification No. F. 1-2/2009(EC/PS)V(I) Vol. II dated 5th May, 2016 (1st Amendment dated 27th August, 2018, 2nd Amendment 16th October, 2018 and UGC Gazette notification no. F. 1-3/2021(QIP) dated 7th November 2022)

The reservation shall be applied for admission in Ph.D. as per the Bihar (In admission in Educational Institutions) Reservation Act, 2003.

- ❖ Those who are in employment and intend to pursue Ph.D. programme will have to submit No Objection Certificate from Employer and further to obtain Study Leave as per the UGC guidelines.
- ❖ D.Phil. (General) is non-academic degree and shall not be eligible for any academic position as per UGC guidelines. Those who intend to pursue D.Phil. (General) can be enrol without appearing in Entrance Examination but they have to submit Application along with Research Proposal and appear before the interview Board for final approval. D.Phil.-General Programme shall be Part-Time.

2. PROCEDURE FOR ADMISSION:

- i. Shortlisted candidates will be eligible to appear for Viva-Voce.
- ii. Candidates securing 50% marks in Viva-Voce will be declared eligible for admission subject to availability of the vacancies as notified by the University.

3. Medium of Viva-Voce: - English only

4. Course Work:

(Credit Requirement, Number, Duration, Syllabus, Minimum Standards for completion etc.)

➤ **Candidate admitted for Ph.D. program, shall attend 6 Months full time Course Work conducted by the University.**

- a. The Credit assigned to the Ph.D. Course Work shall be a minimum of 10(4+4+2) credits and a maximum of 18 (8+8+2) credits.

The course work shall be treated as prerequisite for Ph.D. preparation. A minimum of four credits shall be assigned to one or more course on Research Methodology which could cover areas such as quantitative methods, computer applications, research ethics and review of published research in the relevant field, training, field work etc. Other course shall be advanced level courses for 4 credits. Two credit courses for Research and Publication Ethics (RPE) is compulsory paper of the course work also. A candidate has to publish two articles one of which must necessarily be in SCOPOS/UGC Care List which shall of two credits each.

All course prescribed for Ph.D. course work shall be in conformity with the credit hour instructional requirement and shall specify content, instructional and assessment methods. They shall be duly approved by the authorized academic bodies.

- b. The department where/Centre the scholar pursues his/her research shall prescribe the course (s) to him/her based on recommendations of the Doctoral Research Committee, as stipulated under clause 6 below, of the research scholar.
- c. All candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programmes are expected to complete the course work prescribed by the University during the initial one or two semesters.
- d. Grade in the course work, including research methodology course shall be finalized after assessment by the Doctoral Research Committee (D.R.C.) and the final grades shall be communicated to the doctoral candidates.
- e. A Ph.D. scholar has to obtain a minimum of 55% of marks or its equivalent grade in the University Grant Commission 7-point scale (or an equivalent grade /CGPA in a point scale) in the course work in order to be eligible to continue in the Programme and submit thesis.

Course work will be conducted under the supervision of Dean, Research and Development.

5. ALLOCATION OF RESEARCH SUPERVISOR:

Eligibility criteria to be a Research Supervisor, Co- Supervisor, Number of M.Phil./Ph.D. scholars permissible per Supervisor, etc.

- i. Any regular Professor of the University with at least five research publications in refereed journals and any regular Associate/Assistant Professor of the university with a Ph.D. degree and at least two research publications in refereed journals may be recognized as Research Supervisor. Provided that in areas/disciplines

where there is no or only a limited number of refereed journals, the University may relax the above condition for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing.

- ii.** only a full-time regular teacher at the University can act as a supervisor. The external supervisors are not allowed. However, Co-supervisor can be allowed in inter- disciplinary areas from other departments of the same university or from other related institutions with the approval of the Doctoral Research Committee.
- iii.** The allocation of Research Supervisor for a selected research scholar shall be decided by the Doctoral Research Committee concerned depending on the number of scholars per Research Supervisor, the available specialization among the Supervisors and research interests of the scholars as indicated by them at the time of interview/viva voce.
- iv.** In case of topics which are of inter-disciplinary nature where the Doctoral Research Committee concerned feels that the expertise in the Department has to be supplemented from outside, the Department may appoint a Research Supervisor from the Department itself, who shall be known as the Research Supervisor, and a Co- Supervisor from outside the Department/ Faculty/College/Institution on such terms and conditions as may be specified and agreed upon by the consenting University/College.
- v.** A Research Supervisor/Co-supervisor who is a Professor, at any given point of time, cannot guide more Eight (8) Ph.D. scholars. An Associate Professor as Research Supervisor can guide up to a maximum Six (6) Ph.D. scholars and an Assistant Professor as Research Supervisor can guide up to a maximum of Four (4) Ph.D. scholars.
- vi.** In case of relocation of an Ph.D. woman scholar due to marriage or otherwise, the research data shall be allowed to be transferred to the University to which the scholar intends to relocate provided all the other conditions in these Regulations are followed in letter and spirit and the research work does not pertain to the project secured by the parent institution/ supervisor from any funding agency. The scholar will however give due credit to the parent guide and the institution for the part of research already done and it has to duly approved by Doctoral Research Committee.

6. (A) Ph.D. Programme:

An applicant seeking admission to Full Time Ph.D. Degree Programme shall have:

- i.** A Master's Degree in relevant from any recognized University having scored a minimum of 55% marks in the aggregate.
- ii.** With a view to encourage interdisciplinary studies and research with strong legal component, the CNLU encourages candidates from other disciplines also to register for Ph.D. Full Time Programme. Such candidates must have:
 - a.** A Master's Degree or equivalent degree in any subject relevant to the field of research with a Bachelor's Degree in relevant discipline; or
 - b.** A Master's Degree or equivalent degree in subject relevant to the research with established research credentials by way of publications; or
 - c.** A Master's Degree or equivalent degree in any subject relevant to the research with long term in depth practical experience in the area to be researched; or
 - d.** M. Phil degree or equivalent degree in the relevant subject with excellent academic background.

(B) D.PHIL. - GENERAL PROGRAMME:

Candidates who have passed LL.M. or master's degree in any subject may be admitted to D.Phil. General Programme without UGC NET, on the basis of Interaction/ Research Aptitude in areas having interface with Law/Research Skills etc. After successfully completing the D.Phil. - General Programme they will be awarded D.Phil. - General.

Such of the Candidates who are awarded D.Phil. - General are not eligible for any Academic position as per UGC Regulation No. 2781 dated 5th May 2016 and 11th July 2016. The decision of the Doctoral Research Committee (D.R.C.) with regard to the eligibility of a Candidate for Admission in to D.Phil. - General Programme shall be final and binding.

An applicant seeking admission to D.Phil. - General Programme shall:

- i.** Be a Judge of any State High Court in India or Supreme Court of India.

Or
- ii.** Have minimum of 10 years active practice as an Advocate before the High Court or Supreme Court or experience as Judicial Officer or Law Officer in govt. or semi govt., undertaking or reputed Law Firm etc. for a similar period.

Or

- iii. Have Master's Degree in Law with 3 years' experience as a regular teacher in law in any University Department or Law College or Research Institution affiliated to a recognized University with aptitude for research evidenced by research work.

Or

- iv. Have Master's Degree in Social Sciences or Science with three years' experience as regular teacher or researcher in any University Department or Research Institution or P.G. College or institution affiliated to a recognized University with aptitude for research as evidenced by research work and also by refereed research papers.

NOTE:

Sl. No. B Clause i), ii), iii) and iv) Category Candidates shall not be eligible for Ph.D. Programme unless they fulfil the conditions of Sl. No. A Clause (i), (ii) with Sub Clause a, b, c, and d and are NET qualified and successfully complete prescribed Course Work. However, it is open for them to Enrol for D.Phil. - General Programme:

7. ADMISSION PROCEDURE:

Application Form can be downloaded from the website of the University (www.cnlu.ac.in) and submitted with relevant documents and Bank draft only of Rs. 3000/- (Rs. Three Thousand only) in favour of Registrar, Chanakya National Law University, Patna payable at Patna within stipulated date.

Candidate shall submit the following along with the application:

- a. An outline of the theme of the research work with methodology and chapter-wise break-up of the proposed work in about 2000 words; **(As per draft guidelines uploaded on the website www.cnlu.ac.in) [See Annexure-'B']**
- b. A certificate from the Head of the Institution / College / Department / Bar Council concerned testifying the length of service/practice, wherever required;
- c. An attested photocopy of LL.M., M. Phil. or P.G. Degree with certificate of equivalence whichever is applicable, along with the marks sheet; and
- d. One set of published papers, monographs, articles and books, if any.

8. REGISTRATION, ADMISSION AND FEE STRUCTURE:

Registration to the D. Phil. Programme shall be based on the initial screening of the research proposals submitted by the candidates along with the application. Only selected candidates will be called for interview and presentation on the basis of which final selection will be made.

If the Admission Committee finds a candidate suitable for pursuing Ph.D./D.Phil. - General Programme, the candidate will be allowed to provisionally 'register' on payment of Rs. 15,000/- in case of Ph.D./D.Phil. General student as admission fee. In addition, they shall pay the following fees:

Registration fee (after Course work completion and continuation):

	- Rs. 10,000/- (Ten thousand)
Facilities Fee	- Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten thousand only) Per Annum
Library Fee	- Rs. 15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen thousand only) Per Annum
Library Deposit	- Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) Refundable
Retention fee for every 6 months	- Rs. 8,000/- (Rupees Eight thousand only) twice in a year
Course Work Fee (One Time)	- Rs. 15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen thousand only)

Details regarding content and duration of Course Work will be decided by the Doctoral Research Committee (D.R.C.).

9. DURATION OF THE PROGRAMME:

Submission of Ph.D./D.Phil. - General Thesis

Full Time:

Minimum Period

3 Years

Maximum Period

6 Years

(In exceptional cases relaxation may be made by the Doctoral Research Committee)

10. DOCTORAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE (D.R.C.):

The University shall constitute the Doctoral Research Committee with following Members:-

I.	Vice Chancellor of the University	- Chairman
II.	An external expert nominated by the Vice-Chancellor	- Member
III.	Dean, Social Sciences and Humanities	- Member
IV.	Head, Centre for Post Graduate Legal Studies	- Member
V.	Dean, Research and Development	- Member Secretary
VI.	Dean, Academic Affairs and Law	- Member

All matters for LL. D/Ph.D. /D.Phil. regarding admission, Examination or any other matter related to LL. D/Ph.D. /D.Phil. will be decided by this Committee.

The Vice-Chancellor whenever required may permit an outside expert to be Research guide to supervise the **LL. D/Ph.D. /D.Phil.** thesis as co-supervisor.

The Doctoral Research Committee shall also prepare a plan of work for the entire Programme, stipulating the teaching assignments, the number of seminars to be presented by the candidate etc. and any other academic activity that the candidate should undertake. The plan of the work and the nature and scope of the research problem developed by the **Research Advisory Committee (RAC)** shall be subject to the approval of the Doctoral Research Committee.

11. RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC) AND ITS FUNCTIONS:

There shall be Research Advisory Committee for each Ph.D. /D.Phil. for each scholar. The Research Supervisor of the Scholar shall be the Convener of the Committee. The Vice Chancellor of the University will nominate two regular faculty Members of the University having qualified to be the Supervisor to guide Ph.D. /D.Phil. The Committee shall have the following responsibilities:

- 11.1** To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of Research in consultation with the concerned Supervisor.
- 11.2** To guide the Research Scholar to develop the research design and methodology of Research and identify the course(s) that he/she may have to do.
- 11.3** To review periodically and assist the candidate in the progress of the Research work of the Research Scholar.
- 11.4** A Research Scholar shall mandatorily appear before the Research Advisory Committee once in six months to make a presentation of the progress of his/her work for evaluation and further guidance. The six-monthly progress reports shall be submitted by the Research Advisory Committee to the DRC with a copy to the Research Scholar.
- 11.5** In case the progress of the Research Scholar is unsatisfactory, the Research Advisory Committee shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. If the Research Scholars fails to implement these corrective measures, the Research Advisory Committee may recommend to the DRC for cancellation of the registration of the Research Scholar.

12. PRE SUBMISSION/SUBMISSION OF THE THESIS:

At least three months before the submission of the Ph.D. /D.Phil. thesis the candidate shall present the findings of his/her research work in Pre-Submission Seminar. The seminar shall be presented before the DRC, Faculty, the post-graduate students and other invited experts. In the light of the discussions and deliberations at the seminar, the thesis shall be finalized and five copies of the thesis along with CD/Pen drive shall be submitted to the Research Department for adjudication. The research scholars will submit the thesis within three months from the date of pre-submission seminar within the registration period. If the Research scholar is unable to submit the thesis within three months, the Vice-Chancellor may grant extension of a period not exceeding one year.

The Vice-Chancellor shall approve the panel of three experts who shall be Professor/Associate Professor of the University out of the State of Bihar out of the list, not less than 10 (ten) Adjudicators in number recommended by the concerned supervisor. After receiving the report/s from the adjudicators, it will be placed before Vice Chancellor for the finalization of the date of Viva Voce.

The candidate shall comply with the following requirements while submitting five copies of his/her thesis with Soft Copy in CD/Pen drive to the Research Department, Chanakya National Law University.

- a. A certificate from the Principal Supervisor certifying satisfactory completion of the research work under his guidance and supervision;
- b. A declaration by the candidate and attested by the Principal Supervisor to the effect that the research work is of original nature and not published or submitted to any University for the award of any Degree or Diploma;
- c. Every scholar shall have to present paper in Two National//International Seminar in their subject area and Publish Two Research Papers in the SCOPUS/UGC CARE Journals. The Seminar Certificate and Published Research Papers shall be submitted to the **RAC** before the final submission of the Thesis for adjudication. Failing which the candidate, shall not be eligible for final submission of thesis.
- d. Receipt of having paid Rs. 15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen Thousand only) as thesis adjudication fee.

13. ADJUDICATION OF THE THESIS:

The thesis so submitted by the candidate shall be referred for adjudication to three External adjudicators nominated by the Vice-Chancellor. The Adjudicators shall send their evaluation reports in the prescribed form within a period of three months from the date of receiving the thesis. The majority opinion of the Adjudicators shall be taken into consideration for determining whether or not the thesis work has fulfilled the requirements of Ph.D. /D.Phil. Programme.

The thesis shall include an abstract/summary of the thesis approximately in 3000 words. The length of the thesis shall conform to the requirements as prescribed by the Doctoral Research Committee.

The thesis shall be written in English only and shall be the result of candidate's own work attaining a satisfactory standard of literary presentation.

For the award of the degree of Ph.D. in Law, Ph.D. in Social Sciences with Law and Ph.D. in Science with Law, Ph.D. in Social Sciences (Political Science, History, Economics, Sociology, Management), Ph.D. in Humanities (English Literature) and D.Phil. - General, the thesis must form a distinct contribution to the knowledge in the subject and afford evidence of originality shown either by the discovery of new facts or by the exercise of independent critical analytical power.

The adjudicators shall recommend in writing in the approved form to the University giving their assessment of the thesis and their recommendations as to whether the degree shall or shall not be awarded to the candidate. If in the adjudicators' assessment, the thesis does not qualify for the award of the degree, the adjudicators shall indicate whether additional work should be undertaken by the candidate or whether the thesis should be rejected outright.

The report of the adjudicators shall be placed before the Doctoral Research Committee. If the majority of the adjudicators recommend the award of the Ph.D. degree, a viva-voce examination of the candidate shall be conducted by a committee constituted for the purpose by the Vice-Chancellor consisting of one of the three adjudicators who evaluated the thesis, the Principal Supervisor and an outside expert if necessary. If after such examination, the viva-voce Committee confirms the decision of the thesis adjudicators to award the degree to the

candidate, the Doctoral Research Committee will recommend the award of the degree to the Academic Council. The Academic Council will then approve the award of the degree. If the candidate fails to defend his/her thesis, he would be given another chance after three months.

Those who qualify for the award under Reg. 1 A (ii) will be awarded Ph.D. Degree in Social Sciences with Law (Ph.D. S.S.L.) or Ph.D. in Science with Law (Ph. D. Sc. Law) or Ph.D. Degree in Social Science, or Ph.D. Degree in Humanities or Ph.D. Degree in Management or D.Phil.- General, as the case may be.

On the approval of the Academic Council, the degree shall be awarded to the candidate and shall be duly notified by the University. The degree shall be awarded at the next Convocation of the University. The candidate shall be eligible to obtain a **Provisional Certificate on payment of Rs. 2,000/- (Rupees Two thousand only).**

Where the thesis fails to obtain the majority recommendation of the three thesis adjudicators or the viva-voce adjudicator does not recommend the award of degree, the D.R.C. may decide:

- To recommend that the degree be NOT awarded to the candidate;
- Or
- To recommend that the candidate undertake additional work on the thesis and submit the revised thesis within a specified period;
- Or
- To take such action as deemed appropriate.

A candidate who is required to re-submit revised thesis for adjudication shall be re-enrolled for a period of not less than six months prior to resubmission on payment of **Rs. 10,000/- (Rs. Ten Thousand only)** as re-enrolment fee.

Not more than one resubmission shall be permitted. Re-submission fee shall be **Rs. 15,000/- (Rs. Fifteen Thousand only).**

The re-submitted thesis shall go through the same adjudication process as mentioned above. If the adjudicators of the thesis including the examiners who conducted viva-voce recommend the award of the degree, the D.R.C. shall recommend the award of the degree to the Academic Council. The Academic Council may give its approval for the award of the degree. On the approval of the Academic Council, the degree shall be awarded to the candidate and shall be

duly notified by the University. The degree shall be awarded at the next Convocation of the University.

A candidate shall be eligible to obtain a Provisional Certificate upon payment of **Rs. 2,000/- (Rs. two thousand only)** to the Chanakya National Law University, Patna.

If the resubmitted thesis also fails at the adjudication process mentioned above, it shall in no case be allowed any further re-submission.

A copy of the thesis shall be deposited in the Library which shall be available for consultation by others either on loan or for photocopying. In exceptional cases, the Vice-Chancellor may withhold it for consultation for a maximum period of one year.

14. CONDUCT OF EXAMINATION:

The Research and Development Department of the University Shall Conduct Adjudication and Viva-voce of Ph.D. /D.Phil.-General/LL.D. Thesis in consultation with DRC. All notifications with regards to Research (**LL.D. /Ph.D. /D.Phil.-General**) will be issued by the Dean, Research and Development together, after the approval of Vice Chancellor.

15. EXTENSION OF TIME PERIOD: If the research scholar is unable to complete his/her research work within the stipulated time as per UGC, he/she may submit request application for the extension duly forwarded and recommended by the supervisor, with details of reasons of delay. In any case extension shall not be granted for more than one year. The DRC will decide all such requests. The Scholar shall pay extension fee for Rs 15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen thousand only) and any other dues and fee for extended period.

16. REMOVAL OF DOUBTS:

For removal of any Doubts, the decision of the Vice-Chancellor shall be final.