

Research Journey @ BAOU

(PhD Programme)

In accordance with the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022 and its amendments.

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University (BAOU) follows a structured and transparent process for admission, coursework, research progress, and award of the PhD degree. The stepwise Research Journey is outlined below for the benefit of research scholars and aspirants.

Stepwise Process of the PhD Research Journey

- 1. Advertisement and Application:** Eligible candidates are required to apply online in response to the PhD admission advertisement released by BAOU (normally twice a year – February and August) and pay the prescribed registration fees.
- 2. PhD Entrance Test:** Applicants must appear for the PhD Entrance Test conducted by the University. *(Candidates with M.Phil./NET/GSET/JRF qualifications are exempted, as per UGC norms.)*
- 3. Interview and Research Proposal Presentation:** Eligible candidates are required to appear for an interview, during which they must present their proposed research proposal.
- 4. Provisional Admission:** Candidates who successfully clear the interview process shall pay the application fees, first semester fees, and coursework fees to obtain provisional admission.
- 5. Issue of Provisional Admission and Research Supervisor Allocation:** Provisional Admission Letter and Research Supervisor Allocation Letter shall be issued by the University.
- 6. Completion of Coursework:** Research scholars must complete 12 credits of coursework within a minimum of one semester and a maximum of two semesters, as per regulations.
- 7. Seminar / Viva and Title Approval:** A seminar and viva voce of 2 credits, as part of the coursework, shall be conducted along with the research title approval.
- 8. Issue of Coursework Grade Sheet:** Upon successful completion of coursework, the grade sheet shall be issued to the research scholar.
- 9. Confirmation of Admission:** Admission Confirmation Letter and University Identity Card (I-Card) shall be issued.
- 10. Research Advisory Committee (RAC) Meetings:** A minimum of four Research Advisory Committee meetings shall be conducted semester-wise. Research scholars must present their progress and pay semester-wise fees.

11. Submission of Pre-Synopsis: The research scholar shall submit the Pre-Synopsis in spiral binding (three copies).

12. Pre-Synopsis Viva Voce: The Pre-Synopsis Viva Voce examination shall be conducted as per university norms.

13. Submission of Thesis (Spiral Binding) and Plagiarism Check: The thesis shall be submitted in spiral binding (three copies) along with payment of the prescribed fees. The plagiarism report shall be verified by the Research & Development Cell (RDC).

14. Final Thesis Submission & Viva-Voce Exam: The final thesis shall be submitted in hard bound (four copies), followed by the Open Defence Final Viva Voce Examination and issuance of notification.

15. Award of Degree and Convocation: Upon successful completion of all requirements, the PhD degree shall be awarded during the Convocation ceremony, subject to payment of convocation fees.

Note

- All stages of the PhD programme shall be governed by UGC PhD Regulations, 2022 and University norms in force from time to time.
- Timelines, fees, and procedures are subject to revision as per statutory requirements.