



# ATHARVA UNIVERSITY MUMBAI

(Estd. under Govt. of Maharashtra Act No.XV of 2025 & Recognised by UGC, Govt. of India)

## PhD Regulations and Guidelines

### Atharva University, Mumbai

*(In accordance with UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of PhD Degree) Regulations, 2022 and amendments thereof)*

## 1. Short Title, Applicability, and Commencement

1. These Regulations shall be called **Atharva University, Mumbai PhD Regulations**.
2. They shall apply exclusively to PhD programmes offered in the disciplines of **Engineering and Technology** and **Management Studies** by Atharva University Mumbai, its Schools, Departments, and Constituent Colleges.
3. These Regulations shall come into force from the date notified by the University Academic Council and shall align with UGC Regulations, 2022.

## 2. Definitions

Unless the context otherwise requires:

- **University** means Atharva University, Mumbai.
- **PhD Programme** means the Doctor of Philosophy programme leading to the award of a PhD degree.
- **Research Scholar** means a candidate admitted to the PhD programme.
- **Supervisor / Research Supervisor** means a faculty member recognized by the University to guide PhD research.
- **Co-Supervisor** means a recognized faculty member or external expert approved to jointly supervise research.
- **Course Work** means prescribed academic and research methodology courses required for the PhD programme.
- **Research Review Committee (RRC)** means the committee constituted to Allocate the supervisor and final selection of scholars into Ph.D. programme.
- **Research Advisory Committee (RAC)** means the committee constituted to monitor and guide the research progress of a PhD scholar.

## 3. Eligibility for Admission

### 3.1 Educational Qualifications

Candidates shall be eligible for admission to the PhD programme in **Engineering or Management** if they have:





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1. A Master's degree or equivalent in **Engineering, Technology, Management, or allied/interdisciplinary areas relevant to the proposed research** with **at least 55% marks** or equivalent grade.
2. A relaxation of **5% marks** for SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/EWS/Differently-Abled candidates as per UGC norms.
3. A four-year Bachelor's degree with **at least 55% marks** or equivalent grade may be considered as per UGC provisions.
4. MPhil-qualified candidates (where applicable) as per prevailing UGC guidelines.

## 4. Admission Procedure

### 4.1 Mode of Admission

Admission to the PhD programme in Engineering and Management shall be through:

- National-level examinations such as **UGC-NET / CSIR-NET / GATE / equivalent**, and/or
- **University-level PhD Entrance Test** conducted by Atharva University. **Atharva University All India Ph.D Entrance Test (AUAIPET) – Ph.D**

### 4.2 Entrance Test

1. The entrance test for Engineering and Management disciplines shall consist of:
  - 50% questions on **Research Methodology**
  - 50% questions on **subject/domain knowledge**
2. Candidates securing at least **50% marks** in the entrance test shall be eligible for interview.
3. Relaxation of 5% marks shall be applicable for SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/EWS/Differently-Abled candidates as per UGC norms. as per UGC norms.

### 4.3 Interview

The interview shall assess:

- Research aptitude
- Domain knowledge
- Innovative and Feasibility proposed research topic

### 4.4 Declaration of Results

Final selection shall be based on **60% weightage to entrance test** and **40% weightage to interview**, unless exempted\* as per UGC norms.





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\*Candidates exempted from the Ph.D. Entrance Test as per UGC norms shall appear directly for the Research Interview/Presentation, and selection shall be based on interview performance as per University regulations.

## 5. Duration of the PhD Programme

1. Minimum duration: **3 years** (including coursework).
2. Maximum duration: **6 years** from the date of admission.
3. Extension up to **2 additional years** may be granted as per University rules on recommendation from RRC and RAC.

## 6. Course Work

1. Every PhD scholar shall complete a **minimum of 12 credits** of coursework.
2. Coursework for Engineering and Management scholars shall include:
  - Research Methodology
  - Research and Publication Ethics
  - Advanced courses in the relevant area of Engineering / Technology / Management, including quantitative, analytical, computational, or empirical research methods as applicable
3. A minimum of **55% marks** or equivalent grade must be obtained to pass coursework.
4. Coursework grades shall be included in the final PhD evaluation record.

## 7. RRC and RAC

### Roles and Responsibilities of RAC

1. Review and approve the research synopsis/title.
2. Guide the scholar in coursework and research methodology.
3. Monitor research progress periodically.
4. Review semester-wise progress reports and presentations.
5. Suggest modifications in research objectives or methodology, if required.
6. Ensure originality, ethics, and quality of research work.
7. Recommend continuation, revision, or cancellation of registration in case of unsatisfactory progress.
8. Approve pre-submission seminar before thesis submission.
9. Recommend submission of the Ph.D. thesis to the Research and Recognition Committee (RRC).

### Roles and Responsibilities of RRC





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1. Approve admission and registration of Ph.D. scholars.
2. Approve allocation/change of Research Supervisors and Co-supervisors.
3. Approve research title and topic modifications.
4. Evaluate recommendations submitted by the RAC.
5. Ensure compliance with UGC Regulations and University Ordinances.
6. Approve coursework completion and research progress.
7. Recommend approval for pre-submission seminar and thesis submission.
8. Recommend panel of examiners for thesis evaluation.
9. Review examiner reports and recommend award of Ph.D. degree.
10. Resolve research-related academic matters and policy issues.

## 8. Supervision

1. Only **UGC-qualified and University-recognized faculty members from Engineering or Management disciplines**, with relevant research publications and experience, shall act as supervisors.
2. Maximum number of scholars per supervisor shall be as per UGC norms:
  - o Professor: up to 8
  - o Associate Professor: up to 6
  - o Assistant Professor: up to 4
3. Adjunct faculty shall not act as sole supervisors but may be Co-Supervisors.

## 9. Research Progress and Monitoring

1. Scholars shall present semester wise progress before the RAC
2. Scholars shall submit **semester-wise progress reports**.
3. Unsatisfactory progress for two consecutive reviews may lead to cancellation of registration.
4. Scholars shall adhere to research ethics and academic integrity at all stages.

## 10. Pre-Submission Requirements

Before submission of the thesis in Engineering or Management, the scholar shall:

1. Make a **pre-submission seminar** presentation.
2. Publish **one paper in the Atharva University, Mumbai Research Publication Journal**
3. Publish **at least two research paper** in a peer-reviewed or UGC-recognized journal relevant to Engineering or Management, or demonstrate equivalent scholarly output such as patents, funded projects, or case studies as approved by the University.
4. Obtain plagiarism clearance with similarity index within UGC-prescribed limits.
5. Scholar is required to incorporate suggestions of RAC during pre-submission presentation within one month from the date of presentation.





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## 11. Submission and Evaluation of Thesis

1. The thesis shall be submitted along with:
  - o Plagiarism report
  - o Supervisor's certificate
  - o Scholar's declaration of originality
2. The thesis in Engineering or Management shall be evaluated by:
  - o Supervisor
  - o Three external examiners, one preferably from outside India
3. Based on evaluation reports
  - o If evaluation is positive the scholar shall appear for **Open Viva-Voce Examination**.
  - o Else scholar has to submit the thesis in 3 months' time by incorporating the suggestion from the evaluators.

## 12. Award of PhD Degree

1. The PhD degree shall be awarded after successful completion of:
  - o Coursework
  - o Thesis evaluation
  - o Open viva-voce
2. The University shall notify the award of PhD and upload details to the UGC repository.

## 13. Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

1. All scholars shall strictly adhere to **UGC Regulations on Promotion of Academic Integrity**.
2. Plagiarism beyond permissible limits shall attract penalties, including cancellation of registration.

## 14. Depository and Publication

1. An electronic copy of the PhD thesis shall be deposited in **Shodhganga**
2. The University may archive the thesis in its institutional repository.
3. The University may archive the research work and results in its institutional repository.

## 15. Miscellaneous

1. Matters not covered in these Regulations shall be governed by UGC Regulations, 2022.





**Sunil Rane**  
FOUNDER & CHANCELLOR

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2. The University reserves the right to amend these Regulations with approval of competent authorities.

*Approved by the Academic Council of Atharva University, Mumbai.*

