

Regulations 2014 for Ph.D Program in the Faculty of Commerce, Economics & Management Sciences and the Faculty of Engineering Science & Technology made under Section 6(4) of the First Statutes of Isra University Act, 1997.

1. Short Title: These regulations shall be called, “The Isra University Regulations 2014, for Ph.D Program in the Faculty of Commerce, Economics & Management Sciences and the Faculty of Engineering Science & Technology made under Section 6(4) of the First Statutes of Isra University Act, 1997.

2. Commencement: These regulations shall come in to force with immediate effect. These regulations are made to comply with the guidelines provided by the Higher Education Commission for the award of Ph.D degree.-

3. Definitions: In these regulations, unless otherwise expressly stated, all the terms will have the same meaning as given in Article 2 of the Isra University Act, 1997.

(i) “University” means Isra University

(ii) “E&MS” means “Engineering & Management Sciences”

(iii) “Director Research E&MS” means “Director Research Engineering & Management Sciences”

4. Minimum and maximum tenure for Full Time Ph.D Degree Program

(1) Ph.D Program in the Faculty Commerce, Economics & Management Sciences

Name of Degree	Nomenclature	Minimum Tenure	Maximum Tenure
Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce, Economics & Management Sciences	Ph.D	3 years	* 8 years

(2) Ph.D Program in the Faculty of Engineering Science & Technology

Name of Degree	Nomenclature	Minimum Tenure	Maximum tenure
Doctor of Philosophy in Engineering, Science & Technology	Ph.D	3 years	* 8 years

* Amended vide Registrar’s letter No.IU/RR-10/BoG-36/N/2016/1482 dated 23.8.206 refers

5. Admission Requirements

The students desirous of taking admission to Ph.D Degree Program in the Faculty of Commerce, Economics & Management Sciences and the Faculty of Engineering Science & Technology will be required to have M.Phil/MS/ME/MBA Degree in the relevant field of study from HEC recognized degree awarding institute with the minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 3.00 or equivalent as approved by the university.

6. Admission Process

The cases of admission to Ph.D Degree Program in the of Faculty Commerce, Economics & Management Sciences and the Faculty of Engineering Science & Technology will be processed on the following lines:

- a. The students will apply on the prescribed application form, available at the Admissions Office of Isra University.
- b. The Admissions Office will forward the completed forms to the Director Research, E &MS.
- c. *The students who fulfil the requisite conditions for admission will be required to submit Subject GRE Test Certificate (minimum 60%) or qualify in equivalent in lieu thereof obtaining minimum 70% marks will be called for comprehensive interview.
- d. The Comprehensive Interview Committee comprises of:

Pro Vice Chancellor (E&MS)	Chairperson
Dean of Faculty of Commerce, Economics & Management Sciences	Member
Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Sciences & Technology	Member
Director Research E&MS	Member
Chairperson of the concerned Department	Member
Additional Registrar (Admissions)	Secretary

6. Scheme of Management and Conduct of Courses

(1) Course Work Requirements in Faculty of Commerce, Economics & Management sciences

Degree	Requirement	
	Course Work	Thesis
	Credit Hours	
Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce or Economics or Management Sciences	18	66

* Registrar's letter No. IU/RR-10/R&PGA/N/2018/1360 dated 7.6.2018 refers.

(2) Course Work Requirements in Faculty of Engineering, Science & Technology

Degree	Course Work	Thesis
	Credit Hours	
Doctor of Philosophy in Engineering or Science or Technology	18	66

(3) Minimum and Maximum Credits in a Semester

The students of Ph.D Degree Program are required to register for maximum 15 Credit hours, out of which course credits may not be more than 12 hours.

(4) Minimum Academic Performance

The students of Ph.D Degree Program have to secure CGPA 3.00 marks.

8. Comprehensive Examination

After completion of Course Work, the University will conduct Comprehensive (Written and Oral) Examination

9. Requirements for Award of Ph.D Degree

(1) The Ph.D degree will be awarded after successful completion of course work of 18 credit hours; passing all examinations in theory and practical components separately, with at least CGPA 3.00 or equivalent marks and passing of *comprehensive examination*; and also successful defence of thesis of 66 credit hours in public and before examiners. and supervisors.

(2) *For award of Ph.D publication of at least one research paper from the thesis in an HEC approved journal is essential for an award of the Degree

10. Requirements of thesis work by the Students of Ph.D Degree

(1) Appointment of Supervisors

The Board of Advanced Studies & Research will assign a supervisor and two co-supervisors to the student from within and/or outside the University. The supervisor cannot take more than five Ph.D students. However, in exceptional cases, up to eight students can be allowed by the Board of Advanced Studies & Research.

In case no supervisor/co-supervisor is available for a subject in the University, the Board of Advanced Studies & Research may appoint Higher Education Commission approved supervisor in the subject from outside the University.

(2) Work on Thesis Proposal

Students of Ph.D Degree program may be allowed to start work on a thesis proposal (synopsis) after passing of Comprehensive Examination..

(3) Presentation of Thesis Proposal (Synopsis)

Students of Ph.D Degree program on completion of their synopsis will be permitted to present their thesis proposal/synopsis before the Board of Advanced Studies & Research.

* Registrar's letter No. IU/RR-10/R&PGA/N/2018/1360 dated 7.6.2018 refers.

(4) Modification/Change of Research Topic

(i) Time Limit for Modification/Change

Students may within six months, after the approval of the thesis topic by the Board of Advanced Studies & Research, apply to the Director Research E&MS for modification/change of the topic of their research, duly forwarded by the concerned supervisor(s) and recommended by the Dean.

(ii) Process of Modification/Change

The Director Research E&MS will send the request of the student for approval to the Board of Advanced Studies & Research before the final submission of thesis not less than six months prior to submission of the thesis.

(5). Appointment/Change of Supervisor

(i) Initiation of Change by Student: In case, a student desires to change his/her supervisor, he/she shall have to apply through his/her Chairperson and the Dean. The ground(s) for such request shall be clearly specified. Moreover, if the existing supervisor of the student is not accessible or does not respond to the call from the Chairperson and/or the Dean of the Faculty, the Vice Chancellor will appoint one of the co-supervisors to be supervisor, on the recommendation of the Dean, to be reported to the Board of Advanced Studies & Research for approval.

(ii) Initiation of Change by Supervisor

If the supervisor is not satisfied with the progress of the student, he/she may send his/her report to the Vice Chancellor for further action. The Vice Chancellor, in consultation with the Director Research E&MS will take the necessary action as he deems fit, and the action taken has to be reported to the Board of Advanced Studies & Research for approval.

11. Pre-requisites for the Initial Submission of the Ph.D Thesis by the Students

(1) Seminars by Candidates

The Ph.D students shall give at least three seminars of their research work. The seminars will be chaired by the Director of Research, but the final seminar, prior to submission of thesis, will be presided over by the Vice Chancellor/Pro Vice Chancellor, and the students will be directed to incorporate the necessary suggestions, if any, in consultation with the concerned theses supervisor.

(2) Appointment of Examiners\Experts

The Vice Chancellor shall appoint three examiners from within Pakistan including the thesis supervisor, and two or more experts from technologically advanced countries for evaluation of thesis, **on the recommendations* of the Board of Advanced Studies & Research.

* Registrar's notification No.IU/RR-10/IAC-17/N/2716/1512 dated 17.9.2016 refers

(3) Submission of Thesis

The student shall be eligible to submit his/her thesis before the end of maximum tenure of studentship. In normal circumstances no extension shall be granted after the expiry of the maximum tenure. However, the Vice Chancellor may extend the period in certain situations.

(4) Certificate of the Originality

The thesis must bear a certificate from the supervisor(s) to the effect that the thesis embodies an original research and is worthy of presentation to the University for further necessary action.

(5) Copies of Thesis and its Format

Six copies of the thesis will be initially submitted with spiral binding on A-4 size paper by Ph.D students for evaluation. The thesis will be written in conformity with the Isra University Guidelines for the Preparation of the thesis.

12. Evaluation of Thesis

(1) Thesis Language

The thesis shall be written in the British English language. The text shall be original and free from plagiarism.

(2) Research Contribution

(i) The Ph.D thesis must form a distinct contribution to knowledge and afford evidence of originality, shown either by discovery of new facts or by the exercise of independent critical judgment.

(ii) The student shall not include research work for which a degree has been conferred on him/her or to any other student in this University or any other University, in this regard.

(iii) The text of thesis in soft copy will be submitted to the Director Research E&MS for anti-plagiarism. report.

(3) Defence of Thesis

The Ph.D student will be required to make a presentation on thesis in an open lecture to be held in the University and answer questions relating to his/her work.

Following the open public defence, the student will also defend his/her thesis in an oral examination that will be conducted jointly by the examiners from Pakistan, including the student's supervisor. The co-supervisors will be invited to attend as observers.

(4) Resolution of Conflict

(i) After the completion of an oral (viva-voce) examination, the examiners will normally prepare a joint report giving their observations with due consideration to evaluation of the two external examiners.

(ii) But, where the internal examiners fail to agree between themselves whether or not a candidate has satisfied the requirements for a particular degree, and they are unable to resolve the issue, they may prepare individual reports for the consideration of the Board of Advanced Studies & Research.

(iii) In either case the report(s) will be submitted to the Controller of Examinations for placing before the Board of Advanced Studies & Research.

(5) Work by a Candidate Falling Short of Requirements

Where the work of the student falls short of the requirements, the following recommendations are open to the examiners:

(i) Accept the thesis subject to minor changes, as per comments given in the report.

(ii) Accept the thesis subject to major changes as per comments given in the report(s); subject to re-evaluation of the thesis. It is the supervisor's responsibility to ensure that the student has incorporated, in letter and spirit, all the corrections and suggestions made by the examiners. The supervisor will inform the Controller of Examinations in writing that the student has satisfactorily taken care of all the suggestions, corrections and recommendations of the examiners and it may be sent to the examiner for re-evaluation.

(iii) The thesis is returned to the student for further research or rewriting and resubmission for another examination, within a period of not less than three months and not more than twelve months after approval by the supervisors and Director Research, E &MS.

(iv) The thesis may not be accepted.

(6) Processing of the Document

After completion of all the formalities the thesis will be submitted to the Controller of Examinations who will send it to appointed examiners/evaluators.

(7) Evaluators from Technologically Advanced Countries

Due consideration will be given to the evaluators from technologically advanced countries, and the Board of Advanced Studies & Research will ensure that two reports are in favour of the award of the degree. Nevertheless, the decision of the Board of Advanced Studies & Research will be final in this regard.

13. Final Submission of Thesis

(1) Receipt of Reports

On the receipt of the evaluation reports of the experts from the technologically advanced countries and also examination reports from the examiners in Pakistan, the Controller of Examinations shall submit the same to the Board of Advanced Studies & Research, which shall decide whether the degree be awarded to the student.

(2) Submission of Final Draft of Ph.D Thesis

(i) Subject to the decision of the Board of Advanced Studies & Research, the student will be required to submit eight copies of the thesis to the Controller of Examinations, after incorporating all the suggestions, if any, given by the Board.

(ii) The thesis supervisor will certify in writing that all the suggestions and corrections have been incorporated, and that the student qualifies for the award of the degree. The Vice Chancellor will finally give his approval for the award of the degree.

Note: (i) Approved by BoG in its 35th meeting held on 22.8.2015 on recommendation of Academic Council made in its 15th meeting held on 29.11.2014 (Registrar's letter # IU/RR-10/BoG-35/N/2015/289 dated 3rd November 2015

(ii) These Regulations supersede "The Regulations 2006, regarding M.Phil, M.Phil leading to Ph.D and Ph.D Degrees made under section 6 (4) of the First Statutes of Isra University Act 1997"

(iii) Any amendment in courses of study already approved by the Academic Council will be referred back to the Academic Council for approval.

(iv) These Regulations were notified by Registrar vide notification No. IU/RR-10/BoG-25/N/2016/2389 dated 3.11.2016 referes.