MOUNT CARMEL
(Deemed to be UNIVERSITY)
Estd. 1948 | A CSST Institution | Bengaluru | Karnataka

Statutes Governing Ph. D Program

BASED ON THE UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION (MINIMUM STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES FOR AWARD OF PH.D. DEGREE) REGULATIONS, 2022

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CONTENTS

	Item	Page Number
1	Short title, Application & Commencement	2
2	Definitions	2
3	Eligibility Criteria for admission to the Ph.D. programme	4
4	Duration of the programme	**6**
5	Procedure for Admission	**6**
6	Allocation of Research Supervisor	**8**
7	Admission of International students in Ph.D. programme	**9**
8	Course Work. - Credit requirements, number, duration, syllabus, minimum standards for completion, etc.	**10**
9	Research Advisory Committee and its Functions	**11**
10	Evaluation and Assessment Methods, minimum standards/credits for award of the degree, etc.	**12**
11	Ph.D. through Part-time Mode	**13**
12	Granting an M.Phil. Certificate	**13**
13	Issuing a Provisional certificate	**13**
14	Depository with INFLIBNET	**14**

1. Short title, Application & Commencement

i. These Regulations may be called Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Rules & Regulations, 2026

ii. These Regulations shall come into effect from the date of approval by the Executive Council

iii. This Regulation of the University lays down the conditions and procedures for the award of the Degree of PhD

2. Definitions

In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires,-

a. “Act” means the University Grants Commission Act,1956 (3 of 1956);

b. “Adjunct Faculty” means a part-time or contingent instructor, but not full-time faculty member hired to teach by Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University)

c. “Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)” means a measure of the overall cumulative performance of a student over all semesters. The CGPA is the ratio of total credit points secured by a student in various courses in all semesters and the sum of the total credits of all courses in all semesters. It is expressed up to two decimal places;

d. “Credit” means the number of hours of instruction required per week over the duration of a semester. A three-credit course in a semester means three one-hour lectures per week, with each one-hour lecture counted as one credit;

e. “Commission” means the University Grants Commission established under Section 4 of the UGC Act1956;

f. “Course” means one of the specified units which go to comprise a programme of study;

g. “Course Work” means courses of study prescribed by the School/Department/ Centre to be undertaken by a student registered for the Ph.D. Degree;

h. “Degree” means a degree awarded by Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) in accordance with the provisions of section 22 (3) of the Act;

i. “External examiner” means an academician/researcher with published research work who is not part of Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) ;

j. Foreign Educational Institution” means–(i) an institution duly established or incorporated in its home country and offering educational programmes at the undergraduate, postgraduate and higher levels in its home country and (ii) which offers programme(s) of study leading to the award of a degree through conventional face-to-face mode, but excluding distance, online, ODL mode;

k. “Grade Point” means a numerical weight allotted to each letter grade on a 10-point scale;

l. “Guide/Research Supervisor” means an academician/researcher recognized by Higher Educational Institution to supervise the Ph.D. scholar for his/her research;

m. “Interdisciplinary Research” means research conducted by a Ph.D. scholar in two or more academic disciplines;

n. “Open and Distance Learning Mode” shall have the same meaning as defined under the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations 2020;

o. “Online Mode” shall have the same meaning as defined under the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations 2020;

p. “Plagiarism” means the practice of taking someone else’s work or idea and passing them as one’s own;

q. “Programme” means a higher education programme pursued for a degree specified by the Commission under sub-section (3) of section 22 of the Act;

r. “Prospectus” means any document, whether in print or otherwise, issued for providing fair and transparent information relating to a Higher Educational Institution and programmes, to the general public by Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University)

s. “Research Proposal” means a brief write-up giving an outline of the proposed research work which the Ph.D. scholar shall submit along with the application for registration for Ph.D. programme;

t. “University” means Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) established or incorporated under Section 3 of the UGC Act 1956 vide Government of India notification No. 9-4/2026-U.3 (A)

3. Eligibility Criteria for admission to the Ph.D. programme

The following are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme:

i. Candidates who have completed:

A 1-year/2-semester master's degree programme after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor’s degree programme or a 2-year/4-semester master’s degree programme after a 3-year bachelor’s degree programme or qualifications declared equivalent to the master’s degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed,

or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of the educational institution.

A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time. Provided that a candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed.

A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

ii. Candidates who have completed the M.Phil. programme with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to the Ph.D. programme. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

4. Duration of the Programme

i. Ph.D. Programme shall be for a minimum duration of three (3) years, including course work, and a maximum duration of six (6) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme.

ii. A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given ; provided, however, that the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme should not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

iii. Provided further that, female Ph.D. scholars and Persons with Disabilities (having more than 40% disability) may be allowed an additional relaxation of two (2) years; however, the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme in such cases should not exceed ten (10) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

iv. Female Ph.D. Scholars may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave for up to 240 days in the entire duration of the Ph.D. programme.

5. Procedure for Admission

i. The admission shall be based on the criteria notified by Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) , keeping in view the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by the UGC and other statutory/regulatory bodies concerned, and taking into account the reservation policy of the Central/State Government from time to time

ii. Admission to the Ph.D. programme shall be made using the following methods:

   a. Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) will admit students who qualify for fellowship/scholarship in UGC-NET/UGC- CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests based on an interview.

   And/or

b. Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) will admit students through an Entrance Test conducted by the University. The Entrance Test syllabus shall consist of 40% of General Aptitude, and 60% shall be subject specific.
c. Students who have secured 50 % marks in the entrance test are eligible to be called for the interview.
d. A relaxation of 5 % marks will be allowed in the entrance examination for the candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC/differently-abled category, Economically Weaker Section (EWS), and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.
e. Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) will decide the number of eligible students to be called for an interview based on the number of Ph.D. seats available.
f. Provided that for the selection of candidates based on the entrance test conducted by the HEI, a weightage of 70 % for the entrance test and 30 % for the performance in the interview/viva- voce shall be given.

iii. Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) shall,
a. Notify a prospectus well in advance on the institution's website specifying the number of seats for admission, subject/discipline-wise distribution of available seats, criteria for admission, the procedure for admission, and all other relevant information for the candidates;
b. Adhere to the National/State-level reservation policy, as applicable

iv. Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) shall maintain a list of Ph.D. supervisors (specifying the name of the supervisor, his or her designation, and the department/school/centre), along with the details of Ph.D. scholars (specifying the name of the registered Ph.D. scholar, the topic of his/her research and the date of admission) admitted under them on the website of the institution and update this list every academic year.

6. Allocation of Research Supervisor

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

i. Permanent faculty members working as Professor/Associate Professor of Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) with a Ph.D., and at least five research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals and permanent faculty members working as Assistant Professors in Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) with a Ph.D., and at least three research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals may be recognized as a Research Supervisor in Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University). Such recognized research supervisors cannot supervise research scholars in other institutions, where they can only act as co-supervisors. Ph.D. awarded by Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) under the supervision of a faculty member who is not an employee of the university would be in violation of these Regulations.

   Provided that in areas/disciplines where there is no, or only a limited number of peer-reviewed or refereed journals, Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) may relax the above condition for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing.

   Co-Supervisors from within the same department or other departments of Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) or other institutions may be permitted with the approval of the competent authority i.e. Doctoral Committee, Academic Council and Executive Council.

   Adjunct Faculty members shall not act as Research Supervisors and can only act as co-supervisors.

ii. In case of interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research work, if required, a Co-Supervisor from outside the Department/School/Centre/ University may be appointed.

iii. An eligible Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor can guide up to eight (8) / six (6) / four (4) Ph.D. scholars, respectively, at any given time.

iv. In case of relocation of a female Ph.D. scholar due to marriage or otherwise, the research data shall be allowed to be transferred to the Higher Educational Institution to which the scholar intends to relocate, provided all the other conditions in these Regulations are followed, and the research work does not pertain to a project sanctioned to the parent Institution/Supervisor by any funding agency. Such scholar shall, however, give due credit to the parent institution i.e. Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) and the supervisor for the part of research already undertaken.

i. Faculty members with less than three years of service before superannuation shall not be allowed to take new research scholars under their supervision. However, such faculty members can continue to supervise Ph.D. scholars who are already registered until superannuation and as a co-supervisor after superannuation, but not after attaining the age of 70 years.

7. Admission of International students in Ph.D. programme

i. Each supervisor can guide up to two international research scholars on a supernumerary basis over and above the permitted number of Ph.D. scholars as specified in clause 6.iii above.

ii. Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) may decide their own selection procedure for Ph.D. admission of international students keeping in view the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by statutory/regulatory bodies concerned from time to time.

iii. At any point, the total number of Ph.D. scholars under a faculty member, either as a supervisor or a co-supervisor, shall not exceed the number prescribed in clause 6.iii and clause 7.i.

8. Course Work. - Credit requirements, number, duration, syllabus, minimum standards for completion, etc.

i. The Credit requirement for the Ph.D. coursework is a minimum of 12 credits, including a "Research and Publication Ethics" course as notified by UGC vide D.O. No. F.1- 1/2018(Journal/CARE) in 2019 and a Research Methodology course. The Research Advisory Committee can also recommend UGC recognized online courses as part of the credit requirements for the Ph.D. programme.

ii. 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 and evaluations.

iii. A Ph.D. scholar must obtain a minimum of 55% marks or its equivalent grade in the UGC 10-point scale in the course work to be eligible to continue in the programme and submit his or her thesis.

9. Research Advisory Committee and its Functions

1) There shall be a Research Advisory Committee or an equivalent body as defined in the Statutes/Ordinances of Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) concerned for each Ph.D. scholar. The Research Supervisor of the Ph.D. scholar concerned shall be the Convener of this committee, and this committee shall have the following responsibilities:

    i. To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research

    ii. To guide the Ph.D. scholar in developing the study design and methodology of research and identify the course(s) that he/she may have to do

    iii. To periodically review and assist in the progress of the research work of the Ph.D. scholar.

2) Each semester, a Ph.D. scholar shall appear before the Research Advisory Committee to make a presentation and submit a brief report on the progress of his/her work for evaluation and further guidance. The Research Advisory Committee shall submit its recommendations along with a copy of Ph.D. scholar's progress report to the Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) concerned. A copy of such recommendations shall also be provided to the Ph.D. scholar.
3) In case the progress of the Ph.D. scholar is unsatisfactory, the Research Advisory Committee shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. If the Ph.D. scholar fails to implement these corrective measures, the Research Advisory Committee may recommend, with specific reasons, the cancellation of the registration of the Ph.D. scholar from the Ph.D. programme.

10. Evaluation and Assessment Methods, minimum standards/credits for award of the degree, etc.

1) Upon satisfactory completion of course work and obtaining the marks/grade prescribed in clause (3) of Regulation 9 above, the Ph.D. scholar shall be required to undertake research work and produce a draft dissertation/thesis.
2) Before submitting the dissertation/thesis, the Ph.D. scholar shall make a presentation before the Research Advisory Committee of Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University), which shall also be open to all faculty members and other research scholars/students.
3) Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) will use a well-developed software applications to detect Plagiarism in research work and the research integrity shall be an integral part of all the research activities leading to the award of a Ph.D. degree.
4) A Ph.D. scholar shall submit the thesis for evaluation, along with (a) an undertaking from the Ph.D. scholar that there is no plagiarism and (b) a certificate from the Research Supervisor attesting to the originality of the thesis and that the thesis has not been submitted for the award of any other degree/diploma to any other Higher Educational Institution.

5) The Ph.D. thesis submitted by a Ph.D. scholar shall be evaluated by his/her Research Supervisor and at least two external examiners who are experts in the field and not in employment of the Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University). Such examiner(s) should be academics with a good record of scholarly publications in the field. Wherever possible, one of the external examiners should be chosen from outside India. The viva-voce board shall consist of the Research Supervisor and at least one of the two external examiners and may be conducted online. The viva-voce shall be open to the members of the Research Advisory Committee/faculty members/research scholars, and students. Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) may formulate appropriate rules/ordinances to effect the provisions of this Regulations.
6) The viva-voce of the Ph.D. scholar to defend the thesis shall be conducted if both the external examiners recommend acceptance of the thesis after incorporating any corrections suggested by them. If one of the external examiners recommends rejection, the Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) shall send the thesis to an alternate external examiner from the approved panel of examiners, and the viva-voce examination shall be held only if the alternate examiner recommends acceptance of the thesis. If the alternate examiner does not recommend acceptance of the thesis, the thesis shall be rejected, and the Ph.D. scholar shall be declared ineligible for the award of a Ph.D.
7) Mount Carmel (Deemed to be University) shall complete the entire process of evaluating a Ph. D. thesis, including the declaration of the viva-voce result, within a period of six (6) months from the date of submission of the thesis.

11. Ph.D. through Part-time Mode

1) Ph.D. programmes through part-time mode will be permitted, provided all the conditions stipulated in these Regulations are fulfilled.
2) Mount Carmel (Deemed to University) shall obtain a "No Objection Certificate" through the candidate for a part-time Ph.D. programme from the appropriate authority in the organization where the candidate is employed, clearly stating that:
    i. The candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis.
    ii. His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time for research.
    iii. If required, he/she will be relieved from the duty to complete the course work

12. Grant of M.Phil. Degree

Mount Carmel (Deemed to University) shall not offer the M.Phil. (Master of Philosophy) programme

13. Issuing a Provisional certificate

Prior to the actual award of the Ph.D. degree, Mount Carmel (Deemed to University) shall issue a provisional certificate to the effect that the Ph.D. is being awarded in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.

14. Depository with INFLIBNET

Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and before the announcement of the award of the Ph.D. degree(s), Mount Carmel (Deemed to University) shall submit an electronic copy of the Ph.D. thesis to INFLIBNET, for hosting the same so as to make it accessible to all the Higher Educational Institutions and research institutions.