

K J Somaiya Institute of Dharma Studies
Admission Manual
Ph.D. Programme Pali
July 2025

Visit for Further Details: <https://www.somaiya.edu/en/phd/>

Somaiya Vidyavihar University

About Somaiya Vidyavihar University

On 26th August 2019, Somaiya Vidyavihar University become a reality !

We made this milestone after six decades of creating holistic teaching learning experience educational institutes of great repute. Somaiya Vidyavihar University has become a self finance – the first private University in Mumbai vide the Maharashtra Self-Financed Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act 2013.

We have a dream to build and support a world-class institution, one that is proudly Indian, and excels in education, research and service. Somaiya Vidyavihar University will be a place where knowledge is preserved, disseminated, and new knowledge is created. It will be global in the reach of its ideas and universal in its service. Somaiya Vidyavihar University is a place where students and faculty can explore “Freedom of Possibilities” , pursue your passion and above all, find yourself.

Our History and Vision

An all-round education must integrate Indian culture, values & morality into the curriculum.

The Somaiya Vidyavihar Complex was founded in 1959 by late Shri K.J. Somaiya (1902-1999). Endowed with a sharp business acumen, a balanced perspective and a social bent of mind, Karamshibhai set up the Somaiya Trust in 1953 for furthering his dream of shaping young minds through quality education. For this purpose, he bought a large area of land at Ghatkopar, then considered to be distant, meagrely populated.

In six decades it has grown into a large educational complex with 34 institutions catering to diverse fields of education such as Humanities, Engineering, Education, Medicine, Management, Dharma Studies ,Pure Sciences and Commerce & Business Studies, with more than 39000+ Candidates and 3000+ Faculties and staff on a throbbing 50 acre campus.

Our Founder, Padmabhushan Shri K. J. Somaiya founded Somaiya Vidyavihar on 9th September 1959. He later founded the Girivanvasi Pragati Mandal, The K J Somaiya Medical Trust, Girivanvasi Education Trust and sister institutions to make great citizens of India and the World. In the words of Swami Vivekananda, “We want that education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, and the intellect expanded, and by which one can stand on one’s own feet.” We have now grown into a multi-disciplinary and multi-campus education institution with over 1500 faculty, and 38, 000 candidates.

With PhD programmes in various faculties , we provide innovative platform for research aspirants to make a niche of their own to impact society and life.

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About Research Center

In Pali research centre, innovative and research-oriented projects are being undertaken. The students and faculty members are encouraged to publish their work in reputed journals or present papers in conferences. Faculty members have published papers in peer reviewed journals. The centre is currently involved in an interdisciplinary research project titled “A Dictionary of Pali and Buddhist Sanskrit Terms in Buddhist Art and Architecture.”

Research is conducted in the following thrust areas -

1. Theravada Buddhism
2. Pali literature
3. Textual Analysis and Interpretation
4. Buddhist Philosophy
5. Buddhist Ethics
6. Buddhist Psychology
7. Interdisciplinary researches in Pali languages and literature
8. Textual Criticism
9. Pali Narratives
10. Historical and literary Development

Ph.D. Admission Eligibility for Somaiya Vidyavihar University (SVU): Minimum Qualifications for Admission

Subject to the conditions stipulated in the Regulations, the following candidate are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. Programme

i.	Master's degree or a professional degree declared equivalent to the Master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent as per UGC regulations.
ii.	A person whose Master's dissertation has been evaluated and the viva-voce is pending may be admitted to the Ph.D. Programme but subject to completion of Master's degree before provisional admission to SVU Ph.D. Programmes.
iii.	Candidates possessing a Degree considered equivalent to Master's Degree of an Indian Institution, 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 for the purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to Ph.D. Programme.
iv.	Candidate not having Master's degree but having research / work / professional experience or possessing post graduate diploma may appear for Ph.D. Entrance Examination of SVU subject to such candidates need to apply separately to SVU for obtaining equivalence for Master's degree. The SVU will have final rights reserved to give such equivalence as per the regulations. Such candidates must possess undergraduate degree with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent as per UGC regulations. The relaxation will be as per UGC norms from time to time.
v.	MUST have qualified score of Ph.D. Entrance Examination of SVU – mandatory eligibility criteria for all candidates.
vi.	Candidates exempted from appearing for Ph.D. Entrance Examination of SVU MUST fill the application form as per the schedule displayed on website. The exempted candidates need not pay the application processing fee.
vii.	A No Objection Certificate (NOC) in prescribed format from the employer in case of those who are applying to Ph.D. Programme as a sponsored candidate.

Eligibility at UG/PG Degree	
Branch of study at UG	Pali or any other subject
Branch of study at PG	Pali

Exemption Criteria for SVU Ph.D. Entrance Examination
<p>Candidates who has qualified UGC-NET</p> <p>However, the candidates who fulfill the above criteria MUST fill the application form as per the schedule displayed on the website.</p>

Pattern and syllabus of SVU Ph.D. Entrance Examination
<p>Paper-1 Qualitative Test – 40 marks</p> <p>a) Essay Writing – 20 marks</p> <p>b) Comprehension – 20 marks</p> <p>(50% choice in selecting questions in paper I)</p>
<p>Paper – 2 Subject Specific Test – 60 marks</p> <p>a) Multiple Choice Questions – 20 marks (Attempt 20 out of 30 questions)</p> <p>b) Subjective Questions – 40 marks (with 50% Choice)</p>

- **Unit I : Pali Language and literature, its history**

1. Origin and homeland of Pali
2. Pali Grammar : Pali letters and declensions of nouns
3. Pali language and its main characteristics
4. History of Pali literature
5. Pali Canonical literature: Introduction to Sutta , Vinaya and Abhidhamma Literature

- **Unit II : History of Buddhism**

Pali Chronicles : Dipavaṃsa, Mahāvaṃsa

- **Unit III : Pali Post canonical literature :**

1. Aṭṭhakathā literature : works of Buddhaghosa, Dhammapala and Buddhaddatta
2. Milindapañha : Paññattipañho
3. Visuddhimaggo: Samādhiniddeso
4. Introduction to Pali Poetical literature

- **Unit IV : Life and teachings of the Buddha**

1. Life of Buddha: Mahāparinibbanasutta, Dhammacakkapavattana Sutta, Ariyapariyesana Sutta
2. Teachings of Buddha : Four Noble truths, The Noble Eight fold path, Doctrine of kamma, Sīla, Samādhī, Paññā, The concept of Nibbāna, Brahmavihāra, Paṭiccasamuppāda, Tilakkhaṇa, Paramitā
3. Technical terms in Pali Abhidhamma: Citta, cetasika, rūpa, nibbāna, dhātu

- **Unit V : Buddhist Councils :**

First Buddhist council, Second Buddhist council, Third Buddhist council

Documents Required

1. UG Degree or equivalent Mark List
2. UG Degree certificate
3. PG Degree or equivalent Mark List
4. PG Degree or equivalent certificate
5. AADHAR card
6. Degree equivalence / eligibility certificate – wherever is applicable
7. Transfer Certificate and /or Leaving Certificate
8. Migration certificate
9. Two colour passport size Photograph
10. If appearing the PG degree examination – bonafide certificate
11. If employed, then No Objection from the employer – at the time of provisional admission

Important Links UGC Notification 2022 ([Link](#))

Overview of Steps involved in Ph.D. Programme

Sr.No.	Steps
Ph.D. Pre-selection Phase	
1.	Advertisement / Call for SVU Ph.D. entrance exam on website /media handles
2.	Acceptance of the applications for Ph.D. entrance examination along with the applications processing fee
3.	Execution of Ph.D. entrance examination for all Ph.D. programmes
4.	One- on -one Interviews of candidates before an expert panel
5.	Display of selected candidates for provisional admission - Selection process complete
Provisional Admission Phase	
6.	Provisional admission and payment of fees in accounts/admin office of the colleges.
7.	Orientation and initiation of course work (1 year – 2 sem)
8.	First semester encompasses research methodology & publication ethics along with subject specific topic. Second semester majorly focus on building research , technical & soft skills. It includes research activities, lab rotation and research proposal drafting & presentation and its evaluation.
9.	ATKT examination for the semester I and II for unsuccessful candidates or for grade improvement
10.	Issue of mark sheets for course work of semester I and II
Allotments & Registrations	

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11.	Allotment of the guide at individual college-level /department (within the first six months of provisional admission)
12.	Topic approval of the thesis work within 2-3 months after Qualifying course work examination
13.	Registration for Ph. D programme
PhD Phase	
14.	Appointment of Examiners and chairman from Research Committee
15.	Annual Progress Seminars (APS) and Intermediate Progress Seminar (IPS) for the academic year by Doctoral Advisory Committee (DAC)
Submission & defence	
16.	Approval of examiners to present pre-synopsis in one of the APS and IPS
17.	Presentation of pre-synopsis and its approval by the examiners
18.	Submission of thesis to COE office
19.	Sending the thesis to reviewers
20.	Receipt of reviews about thesis from the reviewers
21.	The final defence of the thesis
22.	Submission of the final corrected thesis after defence
23.	Issue of provisional Ph.D. certificate
24.	Issue of Ph.D. certificate
	The steps and the progress evaluation of Ph.D. students by the committee/examiners/experts will be as per the provisions of Ph.D. regulations

Categories of Ph.D. Students

- Candidates with externally funded scholarships/Fellowships; (a full tuition fee waiver will be provided to candidates who join as JRF/SRF under government of INDIA research funded scheme)
- Candidates who work in funded projects within the University or in approved research centres which are collaborating with the University;
- Jointly guided PhD or Co-supervised PhD with International Universities;
- Teaching/work integrated research candidates who are the faculty/employees in pursuit of advancing their academic qualification, recommended by the Head of the Institution and the Academic Advisory Committee. This provision is for those candidates who shall take an undertaking that their routine responsibilities would be duly attended and under no circumstances compromised. The university shall reserve the rights to consider the registration of candidates who do not adhere to these guidelines;
- Research and Teaching Associates of the Somaiya Vidyavihar University.
- “Somaiya Vidyavihar University Research fellow under Chancellor’s Scholarships Programme”.
- “Any candidates having 5 year of teaching/research experience and have publish research paper in SCOPUS; Web of science journal/published patents/grant received from government agencies will be excepted from appearing for the SVU PhD entrance exam but will be required to appear for an interview at the respective departments”
- Candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis provided all the conditions stipulated in UGC 2022 regulations are fulfilled.

About Course Work

The course work will be of one academic year (two semesters) and out of which first semester will be full time. It is expected that during the first semester, the student will report the college/department/section/laboratory for attending the sessions as per Timetable. The student will have to complete total of 14 credits (semester I) + 5 credits (semester II) = total 19 credits with CGPI as per the Ph.D. regulations to become eligible for the registration to Ph.D. programme.

Fee Structure and payment for regular/confirm admission – as per schedule specified in notification from time to time

Particulars	@ Total Fees per annum (₹)	
	First Year	Second Year Onwards
Tuition Fee	30,000/-	30,000/-
Development Fee	10,000/-	10,000/-
Examination Fee	10,000/-	10,000/-
Caution money Deposit (Refundable)	1,000/-	-----
Library Fee	2,000/-	-----
Total (₹)	53,000/-	50,000/-
@ If paid provisional admission fee then should be debited from total fee		
Link for fees payment (Fees will be accepted via online payment gateway only and in no case, it can be paid using any other type of mode of payment and to any office/person)	https://myaccount.somaiya.edu/#/login	

7. Registration, Synopsis & Ph.D. Thesis Submission Fees

Particulars	Amount
Registration fees	5000/-
Approval of Synopsis of Ph.D. Thesis Topic	5000/-
Ph.D. Thesis Submission	10000/-
Total	20,000/-
Note: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Registration fees to be paid by the Ph.D. scholars before submitting the application for Registration for Ph.D. 2. Synopsis & Ph.D. Thesis Submission fees to be paid by the Ph.D. scholars before submission of synopsis. 	

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Payment of fees schedule for Provisional admission and subsequent years of Ph.D. programme

Program Academi c Year	Particulars	Amount in Rupees (₹)	Payment Schedule
First Year	Total fee	53,000/-	Within eight days from the date of receiving the offer letter
Second Year and Onward s	Total fee	50,000/-	Within first week from the commencement of the new Academic Year
Link for fees payment (Fees will be accepted via online payment only and in no case it can be paid using any other mode of payment and to any office/person)		https://myaccount.somaiya.edu/#/login	
Note: Students have to pay the full fees of the program per year till the submission of the thesis			

Guidelines to do fee payment in Online Mode

There is a provision of ONLINE PAYMENT of college fees for student's convenience 24x7 on or before scheduled due date. Student will get notification from institute in three ways.

- 1) SMS
- 2) Email
- 3) Notification on myaccount.somaiya.edu portal

In notification there will be a link to make the payment. You just need to click on the link and follow below simple steps to make the payment.

STEP 1: Link will take you to myaccount.somaiya.edu portal. Use Somaiya SVV Net ID and password to login. Want to know more about myaccount.somaiya.edu click on https://somaiya.edu/media/pdf/SVVNetID_and_Email%20id.pdf

STEP 2: Login, select instalments and click on "Pay Now".

STEP 3: System will redirect to Online Payment Gateway. Fill the required information and follow payment options to complete the payment cycle.

STEP 4: After the successful payment, the payment receipt will be available at student's MyAccount portal

Admission Cancellation policy of Ph.D. programme

If the candidate has accepted the allotted seat by paying the fees and later chooses/ decides to withdraw from the programme of study, then cancellation option is available at his/her MyAccount login.

The college shall follow the below system for deduction of fees against the cancellation request for the candidate.

Sr. No.	Point of time when application for admission cancellation is received by college	Applicable Deduction
1	15 days or more before the date of commencement of academic term	Rs 5,000/-
2	Less than 15 days before the date of commencement of academic term	10% of total fees
3	Less than 15 days from the date of commencement of academic term	20% of total fees
4	On or beyond 15th day but within six weeks from the date of commencement of academic term	50% of total fees
5	More than six weeks from the date of commencement of academic term	100% of total fees

Note:

- Total Fees for the program per year is Rs. 50,000/-
- Tentative date of commencement of every academic term will be announced on website.

Typical Sample example for further illustration to know about cancellation charges with reference to the date of commencement of term

Refer the **below example** for clarification of Ph.D. admission cancellation policy

Assume that the academic term commences from **15th July** of a particular academic year. Based on this assumption, following table illustrates important dates of cancellation policy:

Illustration:

Sr. No.	Point of time when application for admission cancellation is received by college	Applicable Deduction
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1	Cancellation on or before 30th June (up to 11.59pm)	Rs 5,000/-
2	Any time from 1st July to 14th July (up to 11.59pm)	10% of total fees
3	Any time from 15th July to 28th July (up to 11.59pm)	20% of total fees
4	Any time from 29th July to 25th August (up to 11.59pm)	50% of total fees
5	After 25th August	100% of total fees

Process of getting documents submitted return

After verifications of documents, within 7 days, documents will be returned to students.

Contact

E-mail – dharmastudies@somaiya.edu