

Somaiya Vidyavihar University

**K J Somaiya Institute of Dharma Studies**  
Admission Manual

Ph.D.and JRF Programme

Hindu Studies

AY 2026-27

<https://www.somaiya.edu/en/phd/>

## About Somaiya Vidyavihar University

On 26th August 2019, Somaiya Vidyavihar University became 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 their passion and above all, find themselves.

### *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 the 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, 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 Ph.D. programmes in various faculties, we provide an innovative platform for research aspirants to make a niche of their own to impact society and life.

**About Research Center**

Under the research Centre for Hindu Studies there is a scope for undertaking projects on multiple dimensions of Hindu culture, practices, literature, philosophy etc. The research Centre will focus on following major thrust areas:

1. Indian Philosophy with special emphasis on Yoga
2. Indian Knowledge Systems
3. Sanskrit Language and Literature
4. Ancient Indian Sciences
5. Interfaith Dialogue.

Interfaith Dialogue has been one of the core areas. The proceedings of many national and international Interfaith conferences have been published by the Centre. Research project cum publication entitled 'Hindu-Christian Dictionary' has been completed which gives information on important terms associated with Hinduism and Christianity.

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

Subject to the conditions stipulated in the Regulations, the following candidates 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.	Candidates 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 an 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.	<b>MUST</b> have qualified the <b>Ph.D. Entrance Examination and interview of SVU</b> – mandatory eligibility criteria for all candidates.
vi.	<b>Candidates exempted</b> from appearing for Ph.D. Entrance Examination of SVU <b>MUST fill the application form</b> as per the schedule displayed on website. The exempted candidates <b>need to pay the application processing fee</b> .
vii.	A No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the employer in case of those who are working / employed for applying to Ph.D. Programme
viii.	If candidate wants to apply more than one subject then should submit separate / another application and <b>need to pay the application processing fee</b> per subject.

Eligibility at UG/PG Degree	
Branch of study at UG	Any Graduate
Branch of study at PG	Hindu Studies or allied subject

### Exemption Criteria for SVU Ph.D. Entrance Examination

Candidates who hold a JRF Fellowship with CSIR/UGC/ICAR/ ICMR and DBT examinations are exempted from appearing for Ph.D. entrance examination of SVU.

For further details about exemption and category of students refer PhD regulation - [Link](#)

**However, the candidates who fulfil the above criteria MUST fill the application form as per the schedule displayed on the website along with necessary fees.**

### Pattern and syllabus of SVU Ph.D. Entrance Examination

**The Ph.D and JRF Entrance examination will be common and will be at Somaiya Vidyavihar Campus, SVU, Vidyavihar, Mumbai -77**

**Pattern of entrance examination will be notified separately in due course of time**

**Syllabus for Entrance Examination**

**Unit I: History & Culture**

History of Hinduism, Problems in defining Hinduism, Various definitions and interpretations of the word Hindu, Basis of individual identity in the past – based on - geography, identity, family lineage, political states, philosophical traditions, varna and jati

**Unit II: Literature**

Veda, Vedangas, Dharmashastras, Smritis and Puranas, Ramayana and Mahabharata, Classical Sanskrit as well as vernacular literature

**Unit III: Aesthetics and Art & Architecture:**

Schools of Poetics, Gandhara, Mathura, Sarnath, Amaravati school of art, Rock cut and structural architecture, Paintings, Iconography, Temple Architecture.

**Unit IV: Philosophy, Epistemology and other Shastras:**

Six schools of Indian Philosophy (Shad Darshanas) and their fundamental doctrines: Jiva, Atma, Ishvara, Samsara, Karma, Punarjanma, Pramana, Moksha etc.

**Unit V: Sects of Hinduism:**

- 1) Vaiṣṇavism: Gauḍīya, Bhāgavata, Vāraṅkarī, Mahānubhāva
- 2) Śaivism: Liṅgāyata (Vīraśaiva), Pāśupata, Lakulīśa, Kashmir Śaivism, Nātha
- 3) Śākta, Smārta, Tantra
- 4) Bhakti Movement: Prominent saints and their literary contributions.

**Unit VI: Colonial and post-colonial studies in Hinduism**

- Consolidation of Hindu Identity and the impact of colonization and modernism
- Hinduism as defined by Modern Indian Thinkers – Swami Vivekananda, Mahatma Gandhi, Vinoba Bhave, V. D. Savarkar, Dayānanda Sarasvatī
- Modern Legal and Educational reforms – Ishvarchandra Vidyasagar, Raja Rammohan Roy, Pandita Ramabai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Maharshi Karve, Mahatma Phule, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, Shahu Maharaj, Periyar, Ātmārama Paṇḍuraṅga

**Contact**

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