

Directorate of Distance Education

No. DU/DDE (off- campus)/2019

Date: 04-04-2019

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This is to inform all the students who are planning to submit their Ph.D. thesis (Distance education – Off campus) to Dravidian University that they need to present a synopsis seminar before they submit the thesis. Hence, they require to submit their synopsis on or before 30th April 2019. The synopsis seminars would be scheduled between 1-15th May 2019.

It may also be noted that all those who have submitted their thesis from 1st Jan 2019 till date also must give a synopsis presentation.

This is to inform that the following regulations would be followed strictly for all the Ph.D. theses that are being submitted or submitted to Dravidian University under Distance Education (Off Campus).

1. Students have to make a synopsis seminar presentation at Dravidian University campus before submitting the thesis / processing of theses.
2. DU had adopted an anti-plagiarism policy and any thesis having similarity index higher than **10% in plagiarism check** would not be accepted for examination.
3. At the time of submission, it is mandatory to submit **one published full sized research paper** in a good quality technical and peer reviewed research journal.
4. The thesis work should be presented in at least **one conference**.
5. **Panel of experts** that the Ph.D. guide submits for thesis evaluation must consist of at least **50% experts from national institutions** or institutions of high repute.

These regulations, adopted from UGC guidelines and norms followed at Dravidian University for all its regular Ph.D. students would be strictly applied to all theses submitted/submitting under Distance Education (Off campus) at Dravidian University.

Registration gets cancelled on completion of 10 years (5 years + 5 yearly extensions) and no extensions would be given under any circumstances.

For students from **2007-08** and **2008-09** batches thesis submission stands **closed** and theses would not be accepted any more. **For students from 2009 batch, the last date of thesis submission is 31/05/2019.**

Status of all thesis submitted under Distance Education would be uploaded on the University website by 30th April 2019.

**Sd/-
Director**

A Note on the Status of Off-Campus PhD Theses

For various administrative and legal reasons and also owing to the large number of students and the complex evaluation process involved in the case of PhD, the processing of off-campus PhD at Dravidian University (DU) has been irregular over the year. DU has always been putting efforts to process the theses timely and also tried to ensure the quality of theses by introducing various measures from time to time. According to the existing UGC and Dravidian University M.Phil/PhD regulations, PhD students get a maximum of 5 years to submit their theses with an extension of up to 5 years only (it may be noted that the extension is a grace period). Accordingly, acceptance of off-campus M.Phil/PhD theses from those who registered on or before 31st May 2009 has been stopped on 31st May 2019.

Dravidian University has stopped the off-campus PhD admissions in the year 2009 itself and has **not admitted** any off-campus PhD students after the UGC M.Phil/PhD regulation, 2009 came into force.

At present, Dravidian University in order to ensure good standard in PhDs (regular as well as the remaining cases of off campus) insists on following stringent rules that are put into place both by UGC and Dravidian University (see the circular Dt. 4/4/2019). While insisting on such requirements DU also proposes to follow the schedule given below to speedup the processing of pending off-campus PhD theses that are submitted to Directorate of Distance Education, Dravidian University.

Status of the Thesis	Timelines
Notifications pending after completion of Viva	Would be dispatched by post (can check the status on DU website).
Thesis examiners' reports received and Viva to be conducted	Students would be contacted soon requesting them to submit two papers published in refereed journals. Viva would be scheduled up on receiving the papers. (Can check the status on DU website)
Thesis for which some examiner's (some out of 3) reports are awaited	Process of getting the examiner's reports would be expedited (and if the long pending examiners doesn't respond to the fresh reminder within 15 days a necessary alternative action would be taken)
Thesis that are submitted in 2019 after making synopsis presentation (a new quality assuring initiative as per UGC	Theses are accepted after successful synopsis seminar and submission of two published papers. Such theses are being examined for plagiarism check and the successful ones are processed further and the failed theses are sent back to students for resubmission.

regulation)	
Earlier submitted theses that are failed in plagiarism/failed to verify guides/failed to submit CD for Plagiarism check/ rejected by the examiners etc.	Such students have already been informed. Further, a final intimation would be sent to the students.

Note: The status of student's thesis would be updated on the University website every Saturday. Candidates may check the University website for the status of their thesis and be refrained from calling DDE office at Dravidian University as it is difficult to attend a large number of calls every day. Your cooperation in sorting out this long pending issue would be highly appreciated.

Director, DDE
6th July 2019