

RESEARCH POLICY

THE UNIVERSITY
OF BURDWAN

HP

The University of Burdwan

Research Policy

1. Ambit

1.1 Purpose, Objectives and Coverage

The University of Burdwan is committed in pursuing excellence in research, knowledge co-creation and knowledge dissemination by leveraging its core competencies and identifying its academic pursuits. This research policy intends to establish a framework for conducting doctoral research at the University, while ensuring strict adherence to regulatory requirements, academic standards, integrity, and collaboration. This policy aims to guide Ph D candidates, supervisors, faculty, administrators and other stakeholders in sustaining rigorous research practices that contribute to the advancement of knowledge across disciplines.

Research Policy of The University of Burdwan provides a comprehensive framework for conducting doctoral research, emphasizing the importance of scope, collaboration, academic integrity and interdisciplinary approaches. By adhering to this policy and enabling the stakeholders to maintain strict adherence, the University aims to foster an amiable research environment that upholds the highest standards of academic excellence and contributes to the advancement of knowledge across disciplines.

1.2 Applicability

This policy applies to all doctoral (Ph.D.) candidates, supervisors, board of research studies, faculty councils, research advisory committees, and associated parties involved in the administration of research programmes at the University. It covers all aspects of doctoral research from admission to thesis submission, including coursework, supervision, and publication. It's implementation and applicability are in alignment with the extant Ph D Regulation of the University and the guidelines of the regulatory bodies.

1.3 Definitions

- **Doctoral Candidate:** An individual enrolled in a Ph.D. programme at the University.
- **Supervisor:** A faculty member recognized by the University to guide doctoral research.
- **Research Advisory Committee:** A committee established for each doctoral candidate to oversee and guide their research progress.
- **Research and Development Cell:** The Research and Development Cell established in the University of Burdwan.
-

2. Collaboration

2.1 Principles of Collaboration

The University advocates for collaboration in research and recognises its essentiality for fostering innovation, interdisciplinary knowledge, and academic excellence. The University encourages doctoral candidates and faculty to engage in collaborative research activities, both within the University and with external institutions including business organisation both within and outside India.

2.2 Collaborative Research Framework

- **Inter-University Collaboration:** Partnerships with other universities/research institutions for joint research projects, co-supervision of doctoral candidates, and shared access to research facilities and resources.
- **Industry Collaboration:** Engagement with industry partners for applied research, funding opportunities, identification of research problems and practical implementation of research findings.
- **Societal Collaboration:** Engagement with social partners for applied and policy research, identification of research problems and practical implementation of research findings from a policy perspective.
- **International Collaboration:** Encouragement and initiative for international research collaborations to promote global perspectives and access to diverse research facilities and resources.

2.3 Roles and Responsibilities

- **Doctoral Candidates:** Responsible for actively seeking collaboration opportunities, adhering to collaborative agreements, and contributing equitably to joint research projects.
- **Supervisors:** Facilitating and supporting collaborative research efforts, ensuring that collaborations align with the candidate's research goals.
- **Appropriate Committees/Bodies:** Reviewing and approving collaborative research proposals, ensuring compliance with University regulations.

3. Plagiarism

3.1 Definition and Scope

Plagiarism is the presentation of another individual's work, ideas, or data as one's own without appropriate acknowledgment. It includes, but is not limited to, copying text, images, or data from published or unpublished sources without proper citation.

3.2 Policy on Plagiarism

The University maintains a zero-tolerance policy towards plagiarism. Accordingly, all Ph. D. candidates and supervisors/faculty members must be adequately alert and adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity and research ethics.

3.3 Detection and Prevention

- **Plagiarism Detection Software:** Based on standardised policies and regulatory guidelines, the University employs/ would continue to employ advanced plagiarism detection software to evaluate all doctoral theses and research papers.
- **Training and Awareness:** Regular workshops and training sessions on academic integrity, research and publication ethics and plagiarism prevention for doctoral candidates, faculty, administrators etc.
- **Declaration of Originality:** All submitted theses must include a declaration of originality signed by the doctoral candidate and the supervisor.

3.4 Consequences of Plagiarism

- **Initial Offense:** The candidate may be required to revise and resubmit the work with proper citations.
- **Repeated Offenses:** Severe cases of plagiarism may lead to the cancellation of the candidate's registration, rejection of the thesis, or other disciplinary actions as deemed appropriate by the University and as per regulatory provisions.

4. Interdisciplinary Research

4.1 Significance of Interdisciplinary Research

The University underscores the need for undertaking interdisciplinary research it combines and integrates knowledge and methods from different disciplines for addressing complex problems, it fosters innovation and facilitates solutions to multifarious research problems. In this perspective, the University supports and promotes interdisciplinary research as a means to develop and advance comprehensive and holistic framework of understanding.

4.2 Framework for Interdisciplinary Research

- **Identification of Research Areas:** Encouraging individuals and departments to identify the relevant research topics that encompass multiple disciplines.
- **Interdisciplinary Supervisory/Advisory Committees:** Formation of supervisory/advisory committees with members from diverse academic backgrounds to guide interdisciplinary research projects.
- **Funding and Resources:** Identification of sources of fund and allocation of funding and resources to support interdisciplinary research initiatives and projects.
- **Nodal centre:** The RDC-BU shall act as the nodal centre for Interdisciplinary Research.

4.3 Procedures and Guidelines

- **Proposal Submission:** Individuals/departments must submit a detailed research proposal outlining the interdisciplinary nature of their research, including methodologies and expected outcomes.
- **Approval Process:** The proposal will be reviewed and approved by the RDC-BU, ensuring that the interdisciplinary research meets academic standards and contributes to knowledge in multiple fields.
- **Periodic Review:** Regular evaluations of the progress of interdisciplinary research projects by the RDC-BU to ensure adherence to research goals and timelines.

4.4 Benefits and Challenges

- **Benefits:** Wider perspectives, innovative solutions, augmented research impact, and enhanced collaboration opportunities.
- **Challenges:** Coordination among different disciplines, integration of diverse methodologies, and addressing potential conflicts in academic priorities.

5. Implementation and Review

5.1 Implementation

The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of the University's academic and administrative bodies, including the Faculty Council for Post-graduate Studies, Board of Research Studies, Departmental Committee, Research Advisory Committees, and doctoral supervisors.

5.2 Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Annual Reviews:** Regular monitoring and evaluation of the research policy's effectiveness through annual reviews primarily by the RDC-BU in association with the departments concerned.
- **Feedback Mechanism:** Collection of feedback from doctoral candidates, supervisors, and research committees to identify areas for improvement.

5.3 Amendments

The extant research policy may be amended periodically to reflect changes in academic standards, research practices, and regulatory requirements. Amendments will be proposed by the Faculty Council for Post-graduate Studies and approved by the Executive Council of the University.

Vice-Chancellor
The University of Burdwan
Burdwan, West Bengal

Approved
[Signature]
20/06/24

Honble VC Sir,
my n approved
[Signature]

Director
Internal Quality Assurance Cell
The University of Burdwan
Burdwan-713104

20/06/24