

## 2. Common Academic Regulations

To ensure uniform system of education, duration of post graduate degree programmes, residential requirements, eligibility criteria for and mode of admissions, credit load requirement and its distribution between course and research work, system of examination and other related aspects, following academic regulations are recommended.

**2.1 Academic Calendar:** Introduce uniform schedule for academic calendar across the country both for Master's and Doctoral programmes. Each postgraduate course must start simultaneously on 1st August. This will: (i). ensure uniform commencement of academic programmes across the country, (ii) encourage M. Sc. students to complete their degrees within the stipulated period of two academic years, (iii) allow zero time loss enrollments to Ph. D. courses and (iv) make available bright young M. Sc. students for admission to Ph. D. courses.

**2.2 System of Education:** The semester system of education should be followed across the country both at M.Sc. and Ph.D. levels. Each semester will be of 110 day duration. Every enrolled student will be required to take a specified load of course work in the chosen subject of specialization (major, minor and supporting courses) and also complete a research project and present this in the form of a dissertation.

### 2.3 Grading System

- a. Master's Programme
  - i. Scale: 10 point
  - ii. Minimum passing grade in a course: 6.00
  - iii. Minimum OGPA to continue and to obtain degree: 6.50
- b. Doctoral Programme
  - i. Scale: 10 point
  - ii. Minimum passing grade in a course: 6.00
  - iii. Minimum OGPA to continue and to obtain degree: 6.50

### 2.4 Duration of the Programme

- a. Master's programme
  - i. Minimum 4 semesters (2 academic years)
  - ii. Maximum 8 semesters
- b. Doctoral Programme
  - i. Minimum 6 semesters (3 academic years)
  - ii. Maximum 12 semesters

### 2.5 Residential Requirements

Master's Programme	2 years
Doctoral Programme	3 years

- No M. Sc. or Ph.D. student should be allowed to discontinue the academic programme without completing comprehensive examination.

## 2.6 Eligibility for Admissions

### a. Master's Programme

- A bachelor's degree in the respective/related subjects.
- 6.00/10 or equivalent OGPA/equivalent percentage of marks for general category candidates and 5.50/10 or equivalent OGPA/equivalent percentage of marks for SC/ST/PH category candidates at Bachelor's degree level. Those who are coming from the 3-year Bachelor Degree stream should undergo one year remedial programme before registering for regular courses.

### b. Doctoral Programme

- Master's degree in respective/related subjects.
- OGPA of 6.5/10 or equivalent OGPA/equivalent percentage of marks for general category candidates and 6.00/10 or equivalent OGPA/equivalent percentage of marks for SC/ST/PH category candidates at Master's degree level. Those coming from 3- year Bachelor degree and 2-year Master degree streams should undergo one year remedial lessons before registering for the regular courses.

## 2.7 Mode of Admission and Reservation of Seats

### a. Master's Programme

- SAUs are free to adopt entrance examination or merit at the Bachelor's level or a combination of both while making admissions. Particularly for admission out of University/State students should be based on Common Entrance Test and not by merit only. This is being suggested to minimize the problems of disparate grading and academic standards followed across universities.
- Present system of Common Entrance Test to fill the allocated ICAR seats will continue. However, the quota for ICAR seats is recommended to be increased from 25 to 30%.
- Reservation of seats should be governed by the relevant policy/rules of the State government.

### b. Doctoral Programme

- SAUs are free to follow entrance examination or merit at Master's level or a combination of both.
- Entrance examination (80% weightage) and interview (20% weightage) for seats filled by the ICAR.
- Reservation of seats should be governed by the relevant rules/policy of the State government.
- Those candidates who have qualified ICAR's SRF examination, meet the university criteria for admission and are recommended by ICAR, may be admitted by the agricultural universities with or without fellowship.

## 2.8 Constitution of the Student Advisory Committee

### a. M. Sc.

- Minimum 3 members (2 from major subject including Chairman, and one from minor subject) to be constituted within three months of the 1<sup>st</sup> Semester

b. Ph. D.

- Minimum 4 members (2 from major subject, one each from minor and supporting subjects), to be constituted within three months of the 1<sup>st</sup> Semester

## 2.9 Minimum Credit Requirements

	Master's Programme	Doctoral Programme
<b>i. Course work</b>		
*Major subject	20	15
*Minor subject	09	08
*Supporting subject(s)	05	05
*Non-credit compulsory courses	-	-
**Seminar	01	02
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>ii. Comprehensive Exam.</b>	<b>Non-credit</b>	<b>Non-credit</b>
<b>iii. Thesis</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>45</b>

- \* **Major subject:** The subject (Department/Discipline) in which a student takes admission
- \* **Minor subject:** The subject closely related to a student's major subject.
- \* **Supporting subject:** The subject not related to the major subject. It could be any subject considered relevant for student's research work or necessary for building his overall competence.
- \* **Non-Credit Compulsory Courses:** Six courses (PGS 1-PGS 6) are of general nature and are compulsory for Master's programme. Ph. D. students may be exempted from these courses if already studied during Master's degree.

CODE	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
PGS 501	LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES	0+1
PGS 502	TECHNICAL WRITING AND COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS	0+1
PGS 503 (e-Course)	INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND ITS MANAGEMENT IN AGRICULTURE	1+0
PGS 504	BASIC CONCEPTS IN LABORATORY TECHNIQUES	0+1
PGS 505 (e-Course)	AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, RESEARCH ETHICS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES	1+0
PGS 506 (e-Course)	DISASTER MANAGEMENT	1+0

- \*\* Universities may introduce one extra compulsory non-credit seminar at masters and Ph.D levels.

**Note:** The minimum credit requirements for Veterinary and forestry differ from the above. Refer to respective BSMAC for details.



## 2.10 Maximum permissible course workload per semester

- Master's Programme 18 credits
- Doctoral Programme 18 credits

## 2.11 Attendance requirements

- Minimum 75%, to be counted separately for theory and practical both at M. Sc. and Ph. D. levels

## 2.12 Course evaluation

- Theory – Internal
- Practical – Internal, to be conducted by the course teacher + one more teacher to be nominated by the HOD

## 2.13 Comprehensive Examination

- Should be allowed after completion of 75% course work separately in major and minor subjects)

	Master's Programme	Doctoral Programme
Major subject	One paper	Two papers
Minor subject	One paper	One paper
Paper setting	Internal	Internal
Evaluation	External	External
Qualifying marks	60%	60%
Viva Voce	No	External
Grading	Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory	

## 2.14 Approval of synopsis

Should be accomplished in the first semester both for Masters' and Doctoral Programmes.

## 2.15 Time between Synopsis and Thesis submission

Master's Programme:	One semester
Doctoral Programme:	Two years

## 2.16 Thesis

	Master's Programme	Doctoral Programme
i. Submission	After thesis seminar	(i) After thesis seminar (ii) One research paper should have been accepted and second submitted or one patent filed out of thesis work

ii. Evaluation	External (One examiner)	External (Two examiners)
iii. Viva Voce	By Advisory Committee	By Advisory Committee and one external examiner
iv. Assessment	Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

## **2.17 Inter-institutional Transfer of Credits**

Once the unified national PG curriculum and common academic regulations get implemented, the students may be permitted to transfer credits from one institution to another in case of unavoidable migration. Migration of students admitted through ICAR quota should not be allowed. The migration rules may be framed by the individual SAUs, and due care need be exercised to avoid inbreeding in students.