

Dissertation Guidelines for MA Students

Department of Philosophy
University of Hyderabad

General guidelines:

1. A student who joins the Department of Philosophy for MA program will be required to write a dissertation on a topic of his or her choice.
2. If a student desires to pursue inter-disciplinary study, he or she can do so. In such a case, the student concerned will be responsible to find a co-supervisor from the other department. However, rules for evaluation will remain the same (see below).
3. A dissertation committee comprising of the supervisor and a member will be set up by the supervisor concerned in consultation with the Head of the Department.
 - a. In case of inter-disciplinary study, the co-supervisor from outside the department will become the other member of the committee by default.

Assessment:

1. MA dissertation is equivalent to 12 credits.
2. Students will be evaluated based on their dissertation writing and their presentations.
3. **Presentations:** There will be two compulsory presentations by each student, viz., mid-semester presentation and final presentation for 50% of the total marks.
 - a. Students will be required to give a presentation to the committee in the middle of the semester. In this presentation, the title of the dissertation is expected to be finalized. The presentation will be evaluated by the committee members for 20% of the total marks.
 - b. Final submission will constitute 30% of the total marks. Final presentation will be open for anyone. The grade for the presentation will be decided by the committee members.
4. **Dissertation (50%):** The dissertation will be evaluated for 50% of the total marks.
 - a. The length of the dissertation may be kept between 15,000 – 20,000 words (30-40 pages).
 - b. Submission of the dissertation should be done along with a synopsis in about 1500 – 2000 words (or 10% of the total length of the dissertation). The synopsis should be shared with the committee members.
 - a. If the committee member desires to read the dissertation, a copy should be made available to them.

- b. The committee member can give comments on the dissertation. However, the member shall not be required to grade the dissertation. If the other member, however, is from outside the department due to inter-disciplinary nature of the study, then both the members will jointly evaluate and grade the dissertation.

Prepared and submitted by

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