

In the Name of God

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

**By Research/technology-oriented Program Guideline for Non-Iranian
International Students**

The PhD by Research/technology-oriented program is the highest level of higher education, which leads to granting of PhD by Research/technology-oriented degrees. The PhD by Research/technology-oriented course is a set of basic or applied research activities with the aim of producing science and expanding the borders of knowledge. It aims to train individuals who will have the ability of innovation in different fields of science, serving the purpose of solving international needs. In line with internationalization of higher education, it is imperative that programs and guidelines be prepared based on international standards.

Admission Criteria and Method

Having acquired a Master Degree or a Professional Doctorate Degree (M.D., D.D.S., Pharm.D.) or higher relevant to the requested field of study based on the decision of the advisor and the approval of the research unit and the University's Vice-Chancellor for Research. Determining the overall details of the student's research projects approved by the advisor.

Remark: Based on the application, the advisor of the research unit can request and determine an in-person or distant interview with the applicant.

Advisor

The advisor will be determined based on the request of the student, the written acceptance of the advisor and the approval of the relevant research unit before the arrival of the student.

The first advisor must be from the National Nutrition and Food Technology Research Institute (NNFTRI) faculty members of the university, with the academic level of Associate Professor or higher. The second advisor must at least be an Assistant Professor.

Each Ph.D. student can have at most 3 readers based on the decision of the first advisor.

Length of the Course

A PhD program typically takes **four years**.

Based on student needs and research priorities, the student will be responsible to pass 8 general course credits and at least 6 and at most 10 course credits determined by the advisor before conducting his or her project.

General courses:

- Advanced Research Methodology (2 credits)
- Advanced Biostatistics (2 credits)
- Ethics in Research (2 credits)
- Scientific Writings (2 credits)

Minimum passing score for courses will be 14 out of 20 and the minimum acceptable average will be 15.

Research and Dissertation Stage

Dissertation

The student will be required to defend his or her Ph.D. dissertation proposal based on the proposed framework of the advisor until the end of the first year of studies.

After the proposal has been approved by the referees, the student will be required to submit the project in the University's Comprehensive Research System (called "Pajoohan") and select the dissertation course credit. This course credit should be newly selected every semester until the date of dissertation defense.

If the student should be in other countries including his/her home country for data gathering purposes, she/he can spend half of her/his study period outside Iran, in case approved by a committee of the University's Vice-Chancellors for Education and Research and also the University's International and Scientific Collaborations Office (or their acting representatives).

Dissertation Pre-Defense and Defense Sessions

After writing the dissertation based on the university guidelines, the student will be required to give a copy to the advisor(s) and reader(s).

To defend the dissertation, the student will be required to show the scientific achievements of the dissertation by presenting a certificate of acceptance/publication of at least 2 articles (first author) extracted from the dissertation in scientific-research journals with ISI or PubMed indexes.

Evaluation of Dissertation

The evaluation of the dissertation will be based on the scientific quality of the research, level of innovation, quality of defense regarding research findings, and its method of writing, based on the dissertation “**evaluation worksheet**”.