

LL.D. Degree Programme
Regulations 2020

TABLE OF CONTENTS

S I N o	PARTICULARS	PAGE NO
I	TITLE	
I I	ELIGIBILITY	
I I I	APPLICATION	
I V	POST DOCTORAL RESEARCH COUNCIL	
V	SELECTION PROCESS	
V I	ALLOCATION OF SUPERVIOUR	
V I I	PROGRESS REPORT AND SUBMISSION OF THESIS	
V I I I	GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF THESIS	
I X	ADJUDICATION OF THESIS	
X	AWARD OF DEGREE	
X I	FACILITATE THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE	
X I I	FEE STRUCTURE	

LL.D. Degree Programme: Regulations 2020

LL.D. (Doctor of Laws/Legum Doctor) is the highest degree offered by Maharashtra National Law University (MNLU), Aurangabad, for an exceptional, substantial, significant and original contribution made by the scholar to the discipline of law which can be distinguished with the existing legal literature. MNLU, Aurangabad, is an institution of excellence in the field of legal education and research is established by the Maharashtra National Law University Act, 2014 (Act No VI of 2014) and committed to develop in the students and research scholars, a sense of responsibility, to serve the nation in the field of legal education by developing skills of advocacy, legal services and law reforms. The LL.D. Degree Regulations 2020 are designed to regulate admission process, standard of research work, submission presentation of thesis, award of degree and other matters incidental to the programme.

- I. TITLE:** The regulations shall be called Maharashtra National Law University, Aurangabad governing the LL.D. Degree Programme – 2020 and shall come into force from the date of the approval of the Academic Council and are applicable to degrees awarded by the University.

- II. ELIGIBILITY:** A candidate seeking admission to LL. D. programme of the University, must have pursued outstanding research in the concerned discipline and obtained the minimum qualifications required for admission as mentioned below. The candidate:
 - (a) must have obtained a Ph.D. or an equivalent degree from any recognized university or from a Foreign University of standing, in the concerned discipline, having at least 10 (ten) academic years of teaching experience or exceptional academic achievements in the field of law,

III.APPLICATION:

Depending upon the availability of seats the University will issue an advertisement every year inviting applications from candidates seeking admission for the research degree programmes. The maximum seats available during a particular year will be determined by the University. A candidate, who is seeking admission to LL. D. programme and who is eligible for admission in accordance with clause II of these regulations, shall apply to the Vice- Chancellor by submitting the following:

- (a) His/ her bio-data giving the details of educational qualifications, fields of specialization, research experience, academic distinctions, etc., along with a passport size photograph.
- (b) Title of the thesis.
- (c) A brief account of his/ her recent research work, in about 1000 words on the subject relevant to the discipline in which he/ she has applied for admission to LL. D. programme, showing how far his/ her work is original and is contributory to the advancement of knowledge.
- (d) List of publications along with the copies of 3 recent publications.
- (e) Attested copies of certificates in support of qualifications and experience.
- (f) A reference from two persons not below the rank of Vice-Chancellor/ Director of any Indian University or Foreign University, certifying that the applicant is a fit and proper person to be admitted into LL.D. programme.
- (g) The Vice-Chancellor shall forward the applications of the candidates to the concerned Post-Doctoral Research Council.

IV. Post-Doctoral Research Council (PDRC):

Subject to the general superintendence of the Academic Council, a committee, namely PDRC shall deal with all matters connected with the LL.D. programme of the University in accordance with these Regulations.

The PDRC shall examine the research proposal and recommend to the University the list of eligible candidates to be admitted into LL.D. programme for the respective academic year.

The constitution of the PDRC shall be as follows:

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| i) Dean of DRC (ex-officio) | Chairman |
| ii) Five (5) Subject Experts from outside University | Members |
| iii) Two(2) Professors from MNLUA | Members |
| iv) Dean, MNLUA | Member |
| v) Chairperson, BoS | Member |
| vi) Registrar | Secretary |

The Dean of the Doctoral Research Council is the *ex-officio* Chairman of the Post Doctoral Research Council. The quorum of the council shall always be 2/3rd members to administer the Post-Doctoral Research work.

After selection of the candidates, the regulation of admission process, allotment of supervisors, evaluation of thesis, award of degree and other matters related to LL.D. shall be governed by Ph.D. degree programme regulations 2020.

V. SELECTION PROCESS:

- a) The eligible shortlisted candidates shall be required to make an oral presentation before a PDRC on the dates specified by the University.
- b) The candidate will be entitled for admission, only if his candidature is approved by the PDRC.
- c) The PDRC may recommend the second opportunity to make the oral presentation within a period of 30 days, if the PDRC feels that the candidate deserves another opportunity for the oral presentation.
- d) If the PDRC finds the candidate unsuitable even after the second presentation, the said candidate will be considered as having failed in the selection process and the candidate may be informed accordingly.
- e) The list of selected candidates as above shall be displayed on the MNLUA website.
- f) The candidate secures admission only on payment of requisite fee as notified by the University within the stipulated period, failing which the selection will be cancelled.
- g) A candidate who has failed once may apply afresh during the next academic year, and the same procedure mentioned above shall be followed.
- h) A candidate who has failed in a second attempt shall not be eligible for any further attempts to seek admission to the LL.D. programme in MNLUA.

VI. ALLOCATION OF SUPERVISOR: The Vice-Chancellor shall allot a Professor who is the recognized supervisor of the University depending upon the available specializations/experts among the faculty to supervise the work of the candidate.

VII. PROGRESS REPORT AND SUBMISSION OF THESIS:

There will be two progress reports before a draft thesis is submitted. If a particular progress report is not satisfactory the candidate may be asked to resubmit the same. All such presentations

shall be ordinarily made before a council consisting of the Supervisor and two experts identified by the Post-Doctoral Research Council. All progress reports shall be submitted to the examination department through the Research Supervisor for fixing the date of oral presentation.

A. First Progress Report:

- a) The first progress report shall be submitted to the examination department in writing within six months from the date of registration. The candidate may prepare the progress report in consultation with the supervisor before doing so.
- b) The first oral presentation shall be made within one month of the date of written submission. It would require the scholar to detail out the problem - identified for research, indicate the research outline, identify and firm up research questions and hypothesis, if any, proposed methodological approach and survey of literature.
- c) If the scholar's work report and oral presentation are not satisfactory, a second chance may be provided for improvement within a further period of three months from the date of the first oral presentation. The scholar may consult his/her supervisor and take guidance before submitting the improved revised report to the examination department.
- d) The examination department shall transmit the revised report to the supervisor and fix a date for oral presentation.
- e) Only a scholar who has satisfactorily completed the First Presentation will be permitted to submit the second progress report and the presentation thereof.

After the first presentation, based on the suggestions made by the experts, the scholar may modify the title, if needed, without changing the subject.

B. Second Progress Report:

- a) On completion of six months after the first presentation, the scholar is required to submit a report of the research work to the examination department. This second progress report would explain and analyze the progress made by the scholar. The same will be sent to the supervisor. After the scholar will interact with the supervisor to review progress and receive suggestions.

- b) The second oral presentation shall be within one month from the date on which the second written submission is made to the examination department. The suggestions/ comments made by the experts will be furnished to the scholar by the supervisor.
- c) The same procedure as laid down for the first progress report and presentation is applicable to second progress report and presentation also.

The first two presentations are meant to evaluate the progress made by the scholar and to give suggestions for further improvement of research work. The examination department will fix the date in such manner that the written report of progress is available to the supervisor and to the invited expert at least 7 days before the date of presentation.

The candidate may then submit his/her final draft thesis to the supervisor who will subject the said draft to an appropriate plagiarism test. If the extent of 'plagiarism' is less than 20% and if the said lacuna can be corrected by duly acknowledging the source of textual material used through appropriate footnoting, the correction will be allowed before the supervisor approves the final draft.

If, however the said plagiarism is more than the 20% limit mentioned above, the supervisor may reject the final draft thesis and decline the third and final presentation. The same shall be reported to the PDRC for its appropriate decision, which may include de-registration of the candidate.

If the supervisor finds that the candidate has cleared the plagiarism test and also finds the candidate has made satisfactory progress otherwise he/she may recommend that the candidate is fit to move into the third and final presentation.

C. Third and Final Presentation.

- a) The final draft shall be submitted to the examination department within three months from the date of completion of three years. In case of necessity, based upon the valid

ground, the extension of not exceeding three years may be granted. The total period shall not exceed six years.

- b) The scholar shall submit a soft copy as well as four hard copies to the Examination Department. The Examination department will subject the full text to a plagiarism test and send the report to the Supervisor and the scholar concerned about the same.
- c) If the plagiarism test reveals a level of plagiarism higher than 20%, the Supervisor may reject the draft thesis and make a report of the same to the PDRC and recommend cancellation of registration. The PDRC will take an appropriate decision after due hearing. A scholar so disqualified shall never be re-admitted to the LL.D. programme of the MNLU-Aurangabad.
- d) If the plagiarism test reveals a level which is below 20% the supervisor will help the scholar to revisit the draft thesis, make necessary corrections after which the supervisor may re-examine the final draft and if the same is found to be in a suitable condition to be evaluated, he may endorse the draft and the scholar will be asked to furnish five copies of the draft thesis to the examination department.
- e) If the minimum standards are not complied with, the supervisor may give another three months for compliance of all requirements, unless the candidate is already disqualified for plagiarism as above.
- f) Once the final draft is approved for due processing and endorsed by the supervisor, the final presentation shall take place within two months from the date on which the said five copies are submitted to the examination department. There shall be at least three external experts on the panel to evaluate the final presentation of the draft thesis. The experts will be furnished with a copy of the draft thesis at least fifteen days before the date of final presentation. Comments and suggestions may be made by the experts at the time of oral presentation.

- g) After incorporating the recommendations made by the external experts, the final thesis may be submitted with due certification by the Supervisor within a period of three months from the date of completion of three years in the format prescribed by the University along with the payment of prescribed fee applicable at the time of submission, failing which they may have to take fresh admission.

The LL.D. Scholars must publish at least one research paper in referred journal and make two paper presentations in Conferences / Seminars before the submission of the thesis and produce evidence for the same in the form of presentation certificates and / or reprints.

VIII. GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF THESIS:

- a) The length of the thesis should not be less than 300 printed pages (not including foot notes);
- b) The thesis to be printed on single side;
- c) The thesis should be written in English;
- d) The font shall be 'Arial' (12 font size to the body of the text and 10 font to be used for tables, figure, appendices, foot notes etc.);
- e) The each new chapter should begin on a new page;
- f) A margin of at least 4 cm to the left, top, bottom and right side may be stick to 2.5 cm;
- g) The thesis should be free from grammatical and punctuation errors;
- h) Certificate, Declaration, etc. – Formats duly filled in have to be enclosed

IX. ADJUDICATION OF THESIS:

- a) The candidates are required to submit the thesis both in soft copy and 5 (five) hard copies after paying the requisite fee.
- b) The thesis shall be in English and it shall be the result of candidate's own work keeping in mind the standard of literary presentation.

- c) The thesis should not include any other work done by the candidate for any other degree successfully completed at the present University or elsewhere.
- d) The candidate should obtain a certificate from the Supervisor and the thesis should contain the same.
- e) The thesis submitted by the candidate will be sent to **three external examiners** selected by the Vice-Chancellor, from out of a panel of external examiners submitted by the PDRC.
- f) The examiners shall send detailed evaluation reports which shall include:
 - i) A detailed report in the proforma sent by the University;
 - ii) A definite recommendation as to whether the thesis be accepted in the present form or with minor revision or major revision or to be rejected.
- g) If the three examiners unanimously recommend for the award of the LL.D. Degree, the same may be forwarded to the Academic Council.
- h) In case of one of the external examiners not recommending the award of the Degree, the candidate shall be provided through the Supervisor a copy of the suggestions / comments made by the examiners. The candidate is required to resubmit the thesis after incorporating the suggestions / comments and submit the modified thesis within **three months** along with the prescribed fee. Only one such resubmission shall be permitted.
- i) The public viva-voce of the research scholar to defend the thesis shall be conducted only if the adjudication report of the external examiners are satisfactory and include a specific recommendation for conducting the viva-voce examination.
- j) The entire process of adjudication of LL.D. thesis shall be within a period of six months from the date of submission of the thesis.
- k) Following the successful completion of the adjudication process and before the announcement of the award of the Degree, an electronic copy of the thesis shall be submitted to the INFLIBNET for hosting the same.

I. AWARD OF DEGREE:

The Degree shall be awarded after completion of all the above process at the time of Annual Convocation. However, the candidate is entitled to take a Provisional Certificate after the results are declared.

II. FACILITATE THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE:

Notwithstanding anything contained in these Regulations, all matters related to the LL.D. programme shall be governed by the rules and procedures framed by the Academic Council that are in force at that point of time. Any doubt or dispute about the interpretation of these Regulations shall be referred to the Vice Chancellor, whose decision, in his capacity as the Chairman, Academic Council, shall be final.

The Vice-Chancellor may modify, amend and/ or delete any of the clauses given in these Regulations or add any clause(s) to these Regulations, to facilitate the pursuit of excellence in research, provided that any such modification, amendment, deletion, and addition shall be reported to the Academic Council at its next meeting for approval.

III. FEE STRUCTURE:

The fee prescribed for Registration, admission, course, submission of thesis, resubmission of the thesis shall be supplied by the university separately.
