

**ABDUL WALI KHAN UNIVERSITY MARDAN**  
**SEMESTER RULES AND REGULATIONS**  
**MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY (M.Phil)/MS/LLM/MS LEADING TO PhD PROGRAMS**

**1. SHORT TITLE, COMMENCEMENT AND APPLICATION**

- 1.1 These Rules and Regulations, framed under section 29(a) of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Universities Act, 2012, shall be known as Semester Rules and Regulations for M.Phil/MS programs.
- 1.2 These Rules and Regulations shall come into force with immediate effect.
- 1.3 These Rules and Regulations shall apply to all M.Phil/MS Scholars of Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan.

**2. DEFINITIONS**

- (a) **Academic Programme.** Means an “Academic Programme” means a Programme of studies, which leads to the award of a Degree to the students, after successful completion of all its requirements.
- (b) **Assessment.** Means evaluation of performance of students in academic Programmes, including examinations, assignments, practicals, project work, seminars and tutorials.
- (c) **Advance Studies and Research Board (ASRB):** Mean Advance Studies and Research Board of the University.
- (d) **Cease.** Means that a student is declared unsuitable for further studies.
- (e) **Class Assignment.** Means A task relevant to a course of study to substantiate the course contents. An assignment may or may not be graded.
- (f) **Contact Hour.** Means one hour spent on teaching, lab work, practicals, research work, projects, seminars, workshops, internships, etc.
- (g) **Controller.** Means Controller of Examinations of the University.
- (h) **Credit Course.** Means a course required for a degree and is counted towards CGPA.
- (i) **Credit Hour (Crd. Hr).** Means A lecture of one-hour duration per week in a semester for a subject countable towards a student’s Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA).A practical of two hours is equivalent to one credit hour.
- (j) **Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA).** Menas the average of grade points earned in all courses in all semesters of an Academic Programme.
- (k) **Chairman.** Means Chairman of an Academic Department of the University.

- (l) **Dean.** Means Dean of a faculty of the University.
- (m) **Director Academics.** Means Director Academics of the University.
- (n) **Department.** Means an Academic Department of the University.
- (o) **Examiner.** Means a person appointed to conduct the examination.
- (p) **Faculty.** Means Faculty of the University having two or more departments.
- (q) **Faculty Equivalence Committee (FEC):** Means Faculty Equivalence Committee of the University made under these rules and regulations.
- (r) **Grade.** Means a letter grade which represent certain points earned by a student.
- (s) **Grade Point (P).** Means Number of points assigned to a letter grade.
- (t) **Grade Point Average.** Means the average of points earned by a student in a semester.
- (u) **Graduate Study Committee (GSC):** Mean Graduate Study Committee of the University made under these rules and regulations.
- (v) **Non-Credit Course.** Means a course of study, successful completion of which is required for a degree but not counted towards CGPA.
- (w) **Probation.** Means a student is said to be on probation if his GPA in a semester is lower than the required GPA for promotion to the next semester.
- (x) **Provost.** Means Provost of the University.
- (y) **Thesis/Dissertation.** Means It is a report comprising the original research of a student which is counted towards the partial fulfillment of his Master degree.
- (z) **Registration.** Means Registration of the student in a Teaching Department of the University.
- (aa) **University.** Means Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan
- (ab) **Vice Chancellor.** Means Vice Chancellor of the Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan
- (ac) **He.** Means Pronoun stands for both he and she.

### 3. REQUIREMENTS FOR LAUNCHING M.PHIL/MS PROGRAM

- 3.1 There should be at least two PhD faculty members in a department to launch a M.Phil/MS program.
- 3.2 The supervisor of a M.Phil/MS scholar must possess PhD degree in the relevant field.
- 3.3 There shall be a supervisory committee for each M.Phil/MS scholar.
- 3.4 A supervisor can supervise to maximum of eight M.Phil/MS scholars which can be increased to twelve under special circumstances.
- 3.5 All members of the supervisory committee must be PhD Degree holders.

### 4. PROCEDURE FOR ADMISSION

- 4.1 There shall be a Graduate Study Committee (GSC) consisting of the following:

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| (a) Chairman of the concerned department              | <b>Convener</b> |
| (b) Three senior faculty members                      | <b>Member</b>   |
| (c) Two senior faculty members from other departments | <b>Member</b>   |

**Note:** In case, Chairman of the Department is not a PhD holder than Dean of the concerned faculty will be the Convener of GSC.

- 4.2 Director ASRB/Academics shall advertise the M.Phil/MS program in at least two leading national newspapers.
- 4.3 Application on prescribed forms along with the following documents shall be submitted to the concerned head of the department on the dates notified for admission.
  - a. DMCs of all Examinations.
  - b. Original/Provisional Degrees.
  - c. Character Certificate from the Head of the Institution last attended.
  - d. Three duly attested passport size photographs.
  - e. Certificate to the effect that no major / minor penalties have been imposed on the applicant on account of misconduct during their undergraduate and graduate studies.
  - f. Domicile Certificate.
  - g. Undertaking / Agreement (in original) on selection for admission.
  - h. Migration Certificate within one month of the admission, otherwise admission shall stand cancelled.
  - i. Research Proposal.
  - j. Two reference letters.
  - k. Proof of valid NTS / GAT (General).
  - l. An affidavit to the effect that he is not pursuing degree programme studies in any other University.

- 4.4 In service candidates must apply for admission through proper channel along with NOC and leave certificate initially for three semesters.
- 4.5 The requirement of study leave is relaxed for faculty and administrative staff of Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan.
- 4.6 Admission shall be granted by the GSC.
- 4.7 Foreign students shall apply for admission as per criteria laid down by HEC.
- 4.8 Wherever needed, the equivalence of academic qualifications shall be determined by the following Faculty Equivalence Committee (FEC):
- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| a. Dean of the concerned faculty                   | <b>Convener</b>         |
| b. Chairman of the concerned department            | <b>Member</b>           |
| c. Two senior teachers of the concerned department | <b>Member</b>           |
| d. Controller of Examinations                      | <b>Member</b>           |
| e. Director ASRB/Academics                         | <b>Member/Secretary</b> |
- 4.9 If the scheme of studies pursued by a scholar in his undergraduate programme does not provide adequate background for the M.Phil/MS programme, the scholar must take deficiency course (s) proposed by the GSC/FEC.
- 4.10 All eligible candidates are required to appear for interview to adjudge their aptitude, suitability and verification of documents.
- 4.11 The GSC may refuse admission to a candidate based on reasons to be recorded.
- 4.12 The GSC will furnish its recommendation along with original record of the application forms to Director ASRB/Academics.
- 4.13 The Director ASRB/Academics will notify list of admitted students in each department.

## **5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

To be eligible for admission in M.Phil/MS Programme, a candidate is required to have:

- 5.1 Sixteen years of schooling or 4 year education (130 credit hours) after HSSC/F.A/F.Sc/Grade 12 or equivalent will be required for admission in the M.Phil/MS Program.
- 5.2 Qualifying the GAT-General / NTS conducted by the National Testing Service with a minimum 50% cumulative score at the time of admission to M.Phil/MS. (The GAT-General test is valid for a period of two years).
- 5.3 The candidates should have

- (a) Obtained 2<sup>nd</sup> division in annual system of examination and 2.50 CGPA in BS (Hons) 4-years, MA/M.Sc/M.Ed in semester system examination.
- (b) No 3<sup>rd</sup> division in the entire academic career.

5.4 Selection shall be made on the basis of cumulative merit to be determined from previous academic record, written test and interview.

## 6. MERIT DETERMINATION, QUANTIFICATION AND SELECTION

6.1 Merit will be determined using the following weightage.

- |      |                        |    |
|------|------------------------|----|
| i.   | Academic Qualification | 70 |
| ii.  | NTS-GAT General        | 10 |
| iii. | Interview              | 20 |

6.2 Quantification will be carried out as per the following procedure

- i. Research Proposal  
Research Proposal will be evaluated by GSC
- ii. Academic Qualification

$$a = \frac{\text{Marks obtained in SSC}}{\text{Total Marks}} \times 10$$

$$b = \frac{\text{Marks obtained in HSSC}}{\text{Total Marks}} \times 10$$

$$c = \frac{\text{Marks obtained in BS/BBA(Hons)/B.Sc(Hons)Agriculture/BCS(Hons)/LLB}}{\text{Total Marks}} \times 50$$

Score out of 70 = a + b + c

**OR**

$$a = \frac{\text{Marks obtained in SSC}}{\text{Total Marks}} \times 10$$

$$b = \frac{\text{Marks obtained in HSSC}}{\text{Total Marks}} \times 10$$

$$c = \frac{\text{Marks obtained in BA/B.Sc}}{\text{Total Marks}} \times 25$$

$$d = \frac{\text{Marks obtained in MA/M.Sc/LLB/M.Ed}}{\text{Total Marks}} \times 25$$

Score out of 70 = a + b + c + d

**Note:** Letter grades will be converted into % marks.

6.3 **GAT/GRE (General):** Score out of 10.

- 6.4 Interview: Score out of 20.
- 6.5 After selection, the candidate shall submit course registration form along with bank deposit slip to the Chairman of the concerned department during the notified dates.
- 6.6 The Director ASRB/Academics may grant late admission on the recommendation of the GSC on payment of Rs.1000 late fee within five days after the due date.
- 6.7 Each enrolled scholar will be assigned a supervisor by GSC.
- 6.8 If a candidate fails to enroll during the stipulated time after selection for admission, the next candidate will be offered admission on merit.
- 6.9 After enrolment the scholar is required to submit complete Course Work Programme on prescribed proforma "A" to the Chairman of concerned department before the start of first semester.
- 6.10 Admission of each candidate shall required the approval of the Director, Advanced Studies & Research Board, Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan.

## **7. DURATION**

- 7.1 The duration of the program for the Degree of Master of Philosophy (M.Phil)/MS shall not be less than four regular semesters (02 years) and shall not be more than 06 regular semesters (03 years) and the duration of the MS leading to PhD 4 to 5 years.
- 7.2 The study program of M.Phil/MS shall comprise of course work, research and dissertation. A candidate is required to complete at least 24 credit hours of course work during the first year (02- semesters) and a minimum of 06 credit hours of research work during the second year (02-semester) before submission of dissertation.
- 7.3 Dissertation of 06 credit hours based on original research shall normally be completed by the end of forth semester.
- 7.4 English shall be the medium of instruction except for languages and Islamic Studies.
- 7.5 Each student shall follow the syllabi and courses of studies as may be prescribed by the Academic Council from time to time.
- 7.6 Students who fail to complete the degree requirements within the maximum stipulated duration as mentioned above shall have to apply with justification to Advanced Studies and Research Board (ASRB). The ASRB may grant extension in the duration for a maximum of two semesters (one year).
- 7.7 After the expiry of the maximum duration, the scholar who fails to successfully complete the studies shall cease to be on the role of University and shall not be eligible for re-admission.
- 7.8 All course work may preferably be completed in the first two semesters.
- 7.9 There will be two regular semesters in each year, Spring and Fall Semesters.

7.10 Each semester shall be of 18 weeks. Out of 18 weeks, 16 weeks shall be actual teaching time, the rest may be utilized for registration, conduct of examination, declaration of result etc.

7.11 The commencement of semesters shall be regulated by the Director ASRB/Academics.

## **8. COMPOSITION OF SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE:**

8.1 GSC shall constitute a Supervisory Committee, in consultation with the student concerned, which shall normally consist of at least four regular faculty members.

8.2 The Supervisor shall act as convener of the committee.

8.3 Member of the supervisory committee must be specialists in area of the proposed research work assigned to the scholar for dissertation.

8.4 In case the supervisor is no longer available to supervise a scholar either due to retirement or any other eventuality, the supervisory committee will be reconstituted by GSC in consultation with student.

## **9. COURSE FILE**

9.1 Every teacher shall maintain a complete Course File of the subject he teaches.

9.2 The course file shall contain:

- a. Attendance record,
- b. Detail description/outlines of the course,
- c. Weekly teaching schedule,
- d. Date of mid-term and final term examinations,
- e. Details of marks allocation/grading,
- f. Copy of each homework assignment,
- g. Copy of each quiz/class test,
- h. Copies of the question paper of mid-term and final term examinations,
- i. Result sheets of the students,
- j. Difficulties/problems faced during course delivery and recommendations.

## **10. SEMESTER RENEWAL AND REGISTRATION**

10.1 An M.Phil/MS scholar must enroll/register for each semester till submission of his dissertation to BOS within stipulated time as explained in these regulations.

10.2 Enrolment/registration will be completed only when the student submits properly filled registration form along with payment of dues within the notified time for a particular semester to the Chairman concerned.

10.3 If a scholar fails to enroll/register in any semester, he shall cease to be on the roll of University for that semester.

10.4 The GSC may re-admit such a candidate subject to a payment of all dues including Rs. 2000 as re-admission fee and semester gap fee at the rate of Rs. 5000 per semester.

- 10.5 The committee may refuse re-admission if the reasons advanced are not convincing.
- 10.6 The student should obtain GPA/CGPA of 2.50 for enrolment to the next semester.
- 10.7 A student can repeat failed courses of the previous semesters, when such courses are offered, provided that his maximum work load, including the courses being repeated by him, not exceeds the normal work load of 18 credit hours.
- 10.8 A student, who obtains CGPA of less than 2.50, upon completion of the entire approved course work, may be allowed to repeat the subjects in which he had obtained less than 2.50 grade point, to obtain the minimum CGPA of 2.50, failing which the student shall cease to be on the rolls.
- 10.9 All courses taken will be shown on the transcript of the student, including “Failure” and Repeat”.



## 11. GRADING POLICY

The following grading policy will be implemented upon students admitted during Fall 2016 and on ward.

<b>% age Marks</b>	<b>Grade Point</b>	<b>Letter grade</b>
Below 50	0	F
50	2.00	C-
51	2.05	
52	2.10	
53	2.15	
54	2.20	
55	2.25	C
56	2.30	
57	2.35	
58	2.40	
59	2.45	C+
60	2.50	
61	2.55	
62	2.60	
63	2.65	
64	2.70	B-
65	2.75	
66	2.80	
67	2.85	
68	2.90	B
69	2.95	
70	3.00	
71	3.05	
72	3.10	
73	3.15	B+
74	3.20	
75	3.25	
76	3.30	
77	3.35	A-
78	3.40	
79	3.45	
80	3.50	
81	3.55	
82	3.60	A
83	3.65	
84	3.70	
85	3.75	
86	3.80	A
87	3.85	
88	3.90	
89	3.95	
90---100	4.00	A+

## **12. COURSE WORK PROGRAM**

- 12.1 All post-graduate courses will be designated by 700 preceded by the first three to four alphabets of the name of the discipline / programme.
- 12.2 A student admitted to the course shall complete course work of not less than 30 credit hours.
- 12.3 A course cannot be registered without qualifying its pre-requisite (if any) as determined by the GSC.
- 12.4 A student shall not enroll for more than 15 credit hours in a semester.
- 12.5 All courses shall be of 3 credits hours. HEC's parameters should be followed and credit in course work shall also be given to publications (one credit hour/publish paper in the HEC recognized Journals) and conference presentation (one credit hour) upto the maximum credit of such credentials shall be three credit hours.
- 12.6 A student is required to repeat failed courses of the previous semesters whenever the course is offered.
- 12.7 A course can be repeated three times at the most. In case a student fails to make-up the deficiency or improve grade point average shall cease to be on the roll.
- 12.8 In case a student drops a course without such permission or intimation, he shall be deemed to have failed in that course and will have to register the same course, as and when offered.
- 12.9 When a course for which a student is enrolled, cannot be offered according to the program announced, student may opt for an alternate course, on the recommendation of the supervisory committee within two weeks of the commencement of the semester through Proforma "B".
- 12.10 Once an examination of a registered course is taken the course cannot be deleted from the transcripts.
- 12.11 The supervisor shall submit semester wise progress report regarding course and research work to the Graduate Study Committee.

## **13. TRANSFER OF CREDIT BY MIGRATION**

- 13.1 Transfer of Credit by Migration in the first Semester is not allowed.
- 13.2 Transfer of Credit by Migration from AWKUM is allowed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester onwards on the basis of solid reasons / justification.
- 13.3 Transfer of Credit by Migration to AWKUM is allowed provided the scheme of study is the same as in vogue in AWKUM as per the following rules:

- a. Transfer of Credit by Migration to AWKUM is allowed from 2<sup>nd</sup> semester onwards.
- b. The faculty equivalence committee will determine the suitability of the candidate and the courses to be studied at AWKUM.
- c. The scholar will have to complete the residency requirement of 2 to 3 years, including the period for which he is granted credit.

#### **14. ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS**

- 14.1 A student will be allowed to appear in examination only if he has attended 75% of lectures and practicals separately.
- 14.2 Calculation of attendance shall start from the date of commencement of classes.
- 14.3 A date-wise record of the attendance of students shall be maintained by the respective teacher for each course.
- 14.4 One week before the commencement of the final examination, the teacher of each course shall send to the Chairman of the Department a statement in duplicate showing the total number of lectures delivered and practicals conducted together with the total number of lectures and practicals attended by each student.
- 14.5 Student having class attendance less than 75% in a particular course shall not be allowed to set in the examination of that course and will be awarded 'F' grade in that course and he shall be required to repeat the same course, if it is a compulsory course or an equivalent course in lieu thereof, if it is an optional course.
- 14.6 Absence from class for two consecutive weeks shall entail cancellation of admission in the course by the class teacher which would only be restored on an appeal to the concerned teacher made within 05 days of the cancellation order with payment of Rs. 1000/-. The concern Teacher will inform the Chairman of the Department regarding cancellation and restoration of admission in that course.
- 14.7 Absence from a course for four consecutive weeks will debar the student from examination and the course will be considered failed. He will be required to repeat.
- 14.8 If a student fails to attend all classes for four consecutive weeks, his admission will be cancelled for that semester.

#### **15. RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS**

- 15.1 Each scholar will submit a research proposal/synopsis to the supervisory committee and will deliver a seminar on the proposal/synopsis.
- 15.2 The supervisor shall conduct screening test against plagiarism before placing it to BOS for consideration.
- 15.3 Synopsis will be submitted to Board of Studies (BOS).
- 15.4 During the BOS' meeting the supervisor shall record suggestions, comments and modifications proposed for further improvements. The supervisory committee shall ensure through a certificate for its incorporation in the synopsis.

15.5 After approval of Synopsis the scholar will be allowed to conduct research work in laboratory / Institute / organization, approved by the Advanced Studies and Research Board (ASRB) on the recommendations of the Supervisory Committee.

15.6 Any major change in Synopsis shall required approval by BOS.

## **16. DISSERTATION AND EVALUATION PROCEDURE**

16.1 Dissertation shall be prepared and presented on format approved by ASRB.

16.2 The supervisor shall conduct screening test against plagiarism before placing it to GSC for consideration.

16.3 A soft copy should be submitted to Director QEC for test against plagiarism.

16.4 Three hard copies of the thesis shall be submitted to Director ASRB/Academics for evaluation duly certified by Supervisory Committee and Dean of the concerned faculty.

16.5 Three examiners for evaluation of dissertation shall be appointed by the Vice Chancellor from the panel of 10 experts from the approved list of experts.

16.6 The external evaluators will evaluate the thesis and will mark the thesis out of 100 marks. Average of the three external evaluators will be determined and weightage will be calculated out of 200 marks.

16.7 Each Examiner shall explicitly state in his confidential report to Director ASRB/Academics:

- i. Whether or not the dissertation is of sufficient merit to justify the award of M.Phil/MS Degree to the candidate
- ii. Whether the candidate should be allowed to revise and re-submit his dissertation.

16.8 The comments of examiners must be sent in a sealed envelope to the Chairman Supervisory Committee.

16.9 The Supervisory Committee shall examine the report of each examiner and shall direct the scholar to revise thesis as per observations / comments / suggestions of the examiners.

16.10 If two of the examiners approved the dissertation, the candidate shall be considered for the award of the degree.

16.11 If two of the examiners do not approve the dissertation, the candidate shall be declared failed in dissertation.

16.12 The scholar shall defend his dissertation in an open public and incamera defense. The following shall be present at the time of open defense.

- i. Dean and Chairman concerned
- ii. Member of Supervisory Committee
- iii. Director ASRB/Academics
- iv. One expert in the relevant field appointed by the Vice Chancellor

- 16.13 Final dissertation should be submitted to the Director Academics duly signed by the Supervisory Committee, Chairman of the Department and Dean of the Faculty concerned, for onward submission to the CE.
- 16.14 If the dissertation, submitted by a scholar for final evaluation, is proved to be copied / plagiarized, it will be liable to be rejected. The CE will declare the scholar to have failed. The admission of such a candidate shall be cancelled and he shall not be readmitted to any post-graduate degree Program of the University under any circumstances.
- 16.15 A scholar who fulfills all requirements with the prescribed CGPA shall be awarded the M.Phil/MS degree with specialization indicated.
- 16.16 Minimum CGPA for M.Phil/MS degree is 2.50.
- 16.17 In all case where these regulations are silent or where there is difference of opinion about their interpretation, the decision of the ASRB shall be final.