

NOORUL ISLAM CENTRE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

(Declared as Deemed-to-be-NICHE under Section 3 of the U.G.C. Act 1956)

(Accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade)

Kumaracoil - 629180, Kanyakumari District, Tamilnadu, India

BOARD OF RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT & CONSULTANCY (BRDC)

Phone + (91) 4651-250462, Website: www.niuniv.com, E-mail: dir-research@niuniv.com

Regulations for The Degree of Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.)

2017



Modified Guidelines (with effect from July 1, 2016)

Amended on 01.07.2017

[In accordance with the provisions to the regulations of the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M. Phil. Degree) Regulations, 2016]

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PREFACE

It is a matter of pride and privilege to note that on recognition of Hard Work, Sincerity, Dedication and sacrifice of the management, faculty, staff and students of Noorul Islam College of Engineering has been conferred with 'Deemed to be NICHE' status under section 3 of UGC Act 1956 vide Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India notification No.F.9-51/2004-U.3 dated 8th December 2008. Consequently, Noorul Islam NICHE started functioning academically from July 2009.

So it becomes necessary to frame the regulations to assist our faculty as well the students by providing information that is essential for planning and pursuing the academic programs offered by the NICHE. We have to therefore examine what kind of education and training our NICHE must provide for our students in order that they may be prepared to cope up with technological, economical, social and political changes taking place around us, not only locally but globally. The accumulation of knowledge is not only concerned with nature of knowledge itself but of society and the ways human beings think and learn. The time of slow change and long enduring traditional methods of teaching and learning process is ended. The task of those framing and formulating the regulations concerned with admission, curriculum and syllabus, examinations, academic assessment and award of degree, quality improvement etc., is to find a way of utilizing the knowledge acquired in the class rooms and interpret the desires of the people and translate all into forms of societal developments.

Due care has therefore been taken while framing the regulations and curriculum and syllabus of Noorul Islam NICHE by keeping the above in mind and also with the concept of learner - centric learning and learner centric class rooms. In other words, an important element of learner -centric class room and learner- centric learning is learner -centric curriculum which will create awareness within the learner .The awareness is what the learner will take away at the end of the course and is what will enable him or her to transfer the knowledge and skills developed with in the class room to real – life situations.

These regulations and procedures are published to assist our faculty as well the students by providing information that is essential for planning and pursuing the academic programs offered by the NICHE. Continuing efforts will be made each year to revisit and improve these regulations in order to enhance the quality of the NICHE's program and achievement of educational goals.

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1. INTRODUCTION

These regulations and procedures are published to assist students by providing information that is essential for planning and pursuing their academic programs. Continuing efforts are made each year by the students, faculty, and administration to revise and improve these regulations in order to enhance the quality of the NICHE's programs and the achievement of educational goals.

Every student is responsible for knowing the academic regulations and for observing the procedures that govern his or her relations with Noorul Islam NICHE. Unless otherwise specified, these regulations apply to students pursuing M. Phil programs admitted during the academic year 2017-18. Any question regarding these regulations that cannot be answered by a student's academic advisor should be referred directly to the Director Academic Affairs.

Other special problems may involve academic issues such as academic freedom in the classroom or evaluations of a student's academic performance. All students should appeal academic grievances first to the instructor of the course and then to the chairman or head of the department in which the course is offered. If the situation is not resolved to the student's satisfaction, a student should consult the Director Students Affairs / Director Grievance cell.

2. ABBREVIATIONS AND EXPANSIONS (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

In these Academic Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:

- a. **BOM:** refers to Board of Management of Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education.
- b. **AC:** refers to Academic Council of Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education.
- c. **BRDC:** refers to Board of Research, Development and Consultancy of Noorul Islam Centre for. Higher Education.
- d. **BOS:** refers to Board of Studies of a program in the NICHE.
- e. **Branch:** refers to specialization or discipline of M. Phil. Degree Program.
- f. **Controller of Examinations (COE):** refers to the authority of the NICHE who is responsible for all the activities pertaining to the NICHE examinations.
- g. **Course:** refers to a Theory/Practical subject or Project Work that is normally studied in a semester.
- h. **Curriculum:** refers to a set of Courses and their content, (**Plan of Study**) offered at the NICHE. As an idea, **Curriculum** stems from the Latin word for *race course*, referring to the course of deeds and experiences through which children grow to become mature adults. A curriculum is prescriptive, and is

based on a more general syllabus which merely specifies what topics must be understood and to what level to achieve a particular grade or standard

- i. **Director, Academic Affairs:** refers to the authority of the NICHE who is responsible for all the Academic activities of the NICHE departments and for implementation of relevant rules of the academic regulations.
- j. **Director Research:** refers to the authority of the NICHE who is responsible for all the Research and Development activities of the NICHE departments and for implementation of relevant rules and regulations as per UGC.
- k. **Faculty:** refers to teaching member of the NICHE.
- l. **Program:** refers to Degree Program that is M. Phil. Degree program.
- m. **Semester:** refers to 90 Working days, normally in 15-16 calendar weeks. There are **Two Semesters** in a year. The first semesters begin in July/August and end in November/ December and second semesters (that begin in December/January and end in April/May).
- n. **Student Supervisor:** refers to teacher of the NICHE as mentor, nominated by the Head of the Department (**HOD**), who guides and helps a student on academic, non academic and other welfare matters.
- o. **NICHE:** refers to means Noorul Islam NICHE (Deemed), Kumaracoil, Kanyakumari District.
- p. **NICHE Examination:** refers to means the end semester NICHE examination in a course to which a student has registered, conducted at the end of a semester
- q. **“VC”** means the Vice-Chancellor of Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education.

3. PROGRAMS AND BRANCHES OF STUDY

M. Phil. Degree is considered as the first Doctoral Degree whose components shall include course work as well as a preliminary research work leading to a Dissertation. This programme intends to provide opportunities to individuals to take up research work with an equal emphasis on the course work which includes research methodology, cognate subject/s and field of research besides Dissertation.

3.1 Duration

The duration of the M. Phil. programme shall be one year consisting of two semesters. The programmes shall commence from July. First semester final examination shall be conducted in January / February. The second semester final examinations shall be conducted in April / May.

3.2. The following programs and branches in Science and Humanities are offered for award of M. Phil. Degree and any other program / branch / courses as approved by the authorities of the NICHE from time to time.

Program	Branch Code	Branch
M. Phil.	CS	Computer Science
	PH	Physics
	MA	Mathematics
	CH	Chemistry
	EG	English
	MS	Management Studies
	BT	Biotechnology
	CA	Computer Application
	NT	Nano Technology

4. ADMISSION

- 4.1.** The NICHE decides on an annual basis through their academic bodies a specified number of M. Phil. scholars to be admitted depending on the number of available supervisors notified in advance through the Institute Website or Advertisement.
 - 4.2.** All eligible applicants will be called for an entrance test and interview. The admissions will be based on merit and consistent academic record and performance in the entrance test and interview.
 - 4.3.** Candidates who have cleared tests of UGC (NET/JRF), CSIR (NET), SLET and those who have cleared GATE/CAT shall be exempted from the entrance test.
 - 4.4.** All selected candidates will be issued a provisional admission letter by the Admission Office of the NICHE.
 - 4.5.** Candidates are admitted for the programme only at the beginning of the semester. The candidate will continue to pay the prescribed fees, in order to keep the M. Phil. registration active until the Dissertation is submitted. If a candidate fails to do so within the permissible dates of payment of fees, the registration will be withdrawn and the candidate's name will be removed from the rolls after referring to the Supervisor.
 - 4.6.** Provisional admission will be given only after paying of fees and submission of all original certificates as required by the NICHE.
 - 4.7.** Within a week of the admission, the Department Research Committee along with all approved research Supervisors of the department will allocate Supervisor for each candidate and to be submitted to HoD for approval and the same will be forwarded to Registrar through Director Research.
- 4.4. Eligibility**
- i.** Eligibility for admission, admission policy and procedure shall be decided from time to time by the Board of Management (BOM) of the NICHE, following the guidelines issued by the UGC.
 - ii.** Master's degree or a professional degree declared equivalent to the Master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 7point scale .
 - iii.** A relaxation of 5% of marks, from 55% to 50%, or an equivalent relaxation of grade, may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC.
 - iv.** The candidates who took their PG Degree courses in foreign Universities should produce equivalency certificate from recognized Indian Universities.
 - v.** The selected candidates will be admitted to the M. Phil. programme after he/she fulfills all the admission requirements set by the NICHE and after payment of the prescribed fees.
 - vi.** In all matters relating to admission to the M. Phil. programme, the decision of the NICHE and its interpretation given by the Vice-Chancellor of the NICHE shall be final.
 - vii.** If at any time after admission, it is found that a candidate has not fulfilled any of the requirements stipulated by the NICHE, the admission of the candidate may be revoked and intimated to the Academic Council.
 - viii.** NICHE will not conduct M. Phil. programme through distance education mode.
 - ix.** Part -time M. Phil. will not be offered by NICHE.

4.5. The Candidate shall satisfy the conditions regarding qualifying marks, number of attempts, and mode of admission, age and physical fitness as prescribed by the BOM of the NICHE.

4.6. A register number is allotted to a student admitted in a course of a program of the NICHE as follows:-

Register Number format

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
0	1	1	4	4	2	0	0	0	1

Columns	Represent
1, 2	Institution Code
3, 4	Year of Admission
5	Programme Code
6, 7	Branch Code
8, 9, 10	Roll Number of the candidate

Programme Code

Sl. No.	Programme	Code
1.	B.E. / B. Tech.	2
2.	B.E. / B. Tech. Lateral Entry	3
3.	M. Phil.	4
4.	M.E./M. Tech/M.B.A/M.C.A.	5
5.	B.A./B.Sc./B.B.A	6
6.	M.A. / M.Sc.	7
7.	M.Sc. Software Engineering	8
8.	Ph.D.	9

Branch Code

Sl. No.	Department	Code	Code Number
1.	Aeronautical Engineering	AE	01
2.	Aerospace Engineering	AS	02
3.	Automobile Engineering	AM	03
4.	Bio Medical Engineering	BM	04
5.	Chemistry	CH	05
6.	Civil Engineering	CV	06
7.	Computer Applications	CA	07
8.	Computer Science and Engineering	CS	08
9.	Electrical and Electronics Engineering	EE	09
10.	Electronics and Communication Engineering	EC	10
11.	Electronics and Instrumentation Engineering	EI	11
12.	English	EG	12
13.	Information Technology	IT	13

Sl. No.	Department	Code	Code Number
14.	Management Studies	MS	14
15.	Marine Engineering	MR	15
16.	Mathematics	MA	16
17.	Mechanical Engineering	ME	17
18.	Nanotechnology	NT	18
19.	Other Agencies offering Non-Academic	OA	19
20.	Physics	PH	20
21.	Software Engineering	SE	21
22.	Thermal Engineering	TE	22
23.	Computer Integrated Manufacturing	CM	23
24.	Avionics Engineering	AV	24
25.	Fire Technology and Safety	FT	25
26.	Human Resource Management	HR	26
27.	Nuclear Engineering	NE	27
28.	Aircraft Maintenance Engineering	AC	28
29.	Biotechnology	BT	29
30.	Computer Science	CT	30
31.	Cyber Security	CY	31

4.7. The medium of instruction is English for all Courses in all Programs and Examinations, Seminar Presentations and Project/Thesis/Dissertation reports also shall be in English.

4.8. M. Phil. Scholars are bound to remit their prescribed annual course fees at the time of admission as per the instructions of NICHE without fail.

5. CURRICULUM AND SYLLABUS

5.1 Curriculum

Curriculum Development can be defined as the systematic planning of what is taught and learned in Universities as reflected in courses of study and school programs. The primary focus of a curriculum is on what is to be taught and when, leaving to the teaching profession decisions as to how this should be done. In practice, however, there is no clear distinction between curriculum content and methodology - how a topic is taught often determines what is taught. For this reason, and for others, there is need to distinguish the official or planned curriculum - the formally approved program of study - from the de facto or lived (sometimes called hidden) curriculum - the "lessons" that are actually learned.

- i. The main curricular developments are on two fronts: establishing sets of common or essential elements that formed the "basics for all," and providing for flexibility so that students might pursue individual interests and ambitions.

- ii. Critical major review of curriculum of a program shall be done by the respective Board of Studies (BOS) at regular intervals and approved by the Academic Council (AC) and Board of Management (BOM).

5.1.1 Choice Based Credit System (CBCS): - The NICHE regulations are based on CBCS. In this system, a student has **choice** to register for any additional course or free elective (i.e., other than department electives) offered by the NICHE and permitted by the regulations. In **credit system**, quantum of work is measured in terms of **credits**. In this system, a Student has to register to a set of courses prescribed in the curriculum, at the beginning of the semester. Then he/she **earns** credits by passing in each course and obtaining a valid letter grade for the Course. Requirements for a particular program are specified in terms of minimum number of credits to be earned. All M. Phil. programme follow the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) providing flexibility to the students to choose suitable courses. Students must earn a minimum of 24 credits to qualify themselves for the award of M.Phil. Degree.

- i. **Credits** for a Course are based on number of instruction/contact hours be it Lecture/Tutorial/Practical per week. Credits are assigned to Theory, Practical, Seminar, Project, etc. Board of Studies (**BOS**) of a department offering the Program stipulates the number of credits for each course.
- ii. **Credit Assignment:** - One credit is assigned to a course for one contact hour of lecture/tutorial per week or two contact hours of Laboratory/Practical/Seminar/ Project per week or one week of Industrial Training during semester breaks.
- iii. **Course Structure:** - It consists of two types of Courses viz., Theory Courses without Practical component and Practical Courses having both Theory and Laboratory Training or Laboratory training only. Prerequisites, if any, for a Course offered in a semester are specified so that a Student may register for the Course after satisfying such requirements. Pre-requisites are normally assigned to elective Courses. There are no pre-requisites for core Courses of a Program.
- iv. **Program Structure:** It consists of:-
 - **Departmental Core** consists of basic and professional core Courses in the respective branch of study
 - **Departmental Electives** are meant for specialization in the branch of study.
 - **Dissertation** is an inclusive component of a program. Dissertation work shall be carried out by a Student under the guidance of a supervisor within the NICHE department(s). In the Dissertation Work, Student is expected to do an in depth study in his/her specialized area by doing a detailed literature survey, understanding different aspects of the problem, arriving at the status report in the area, carry out developmental and/or experimental Work, analyze and interpret the results to arrive at conclusions. Presentations are inclusive components of a program. These presentations are based on known investigation methodologies, concepts and techniques from the available relevant research literature, critical correlation of works of various authors/ researchers and results pertaining

to the Project Work and their analyses. The Student should demonstrate that he/she has acquired both analytical and practical skills in the field of specialization. Interdisciplinary projects are also encouraged.

- v. **Authorized Break of Study in a Program:** - If a student intends to temporarily discontinue his/her Program in the middle of a semester for valid reasons, and to rejoin the program in a subsequent year, permission may be granted based on the merits of the case provided he/she applies through the HoD stating the reasons there of and the probable date of rejoining the program to the Director, Student Affairs in advance, but not later than the last date for registering to the NICHE examination of the semester. Recommendations of the mentor, the HOD, the Dean and the Director, Academic Affairs are essential.
 - **Break of Study shall be Granted by the Vice-Chancellor Only Once, for Valid Reasons for a Maximum of One Semester during the Entire Period of Study of the Degree Program.**
 - The Student permitted to rejoin the Program after the break shall be governed by the Curriculum, syllabi and Regulations in force at the time of rejoining. If the Regulations are changed, then such Student shall do additional Courses as prescribed by the Director, Academic Affairs, who will prescribe these additional Courses as prescribed by the concerned Chairman of the BOS.
 - The authorized break of study, for a maximum of six months, will not be counted in the duration specified for passing all the Courses and also for the purpose of classification and ranks.
 - However, additional break of study granted for one more year will be counted for the purpose of classification as first class and ranks.
 - The total duration for completion of the program reckoned from the commencement of the first semester to which the student has been admitted, shall not exceed the maximum duration specified above, in order that he/she may be eligible for the award of the Degree.
 - If a student is detained for want of requisite attendance, progress, good conduct or discipline, the period spent in that semester shall not be considered as authorized 'Break of Study'.
- vi. **Credits for a Program:** - Minimum number of credits to be **attained** for M. Phil. Program is as follows:
- vii. **Academic Courses:**

Sl. No.	Courses	Number of Credits
1.	Common Core Paper	5
2.	Departmental Core Papers (2 Papers x 5)	10
3.	Elective (1 Paper x 5 Credits)	5
4.	Dissertation (15 Credits)	15
	Total	35

5.2. Syllabus

The syllabus is aimed at imparting a fair and impartial understanding between the instructor and students such that there is minimal confusion on policies relating to the course, setting clear expectations of material to be learned, behavior in the classroom,

and effort on student's behalf to be put into the course, providing a roadmap of course organization/direction relaying the instructor's teaching philosophy to the students, and providing a marketing angle of the course such that students may choose early in the course whether the subject material is useful.

Critical major review of syllabus of a course shall be done by the respective Board of Studies (BOS) at regular intervals to be approved by the Academic Council and Board of Management.

However syllabus of a course in a program, taught by a teacher, may be modified by him/her within 10% of its contents to incorporate the latest state of art developments in the field of the course with conditions as follows.

- i. Such modifications to the syllabus of the Course shall be recommended by the concerned HOD, Dean and the Director, Academic Affairs for approval by the VC.
- ii. Approved copy of the syllabus is forwarded to the COE one week before the beginning of the semester.
- iii. Such modifications must be prominently announced on the notice board, prior to the starting of the semester.
- iv. Further, such changes in the syllabus of the Course must be explicitly communicated in writing by drafting the modified syllabus and circulating it in the class at the very beginning of the semester itself.
- v. Documentation of such modifications to the syllabus by the Course teachers of the Course must be preserved by the HOD so that they may be considered while critically reviewing/modifying/updating/revamping the contents of the Course when the Program is reviewed to reflect current needs of the industries, based on global advances in Science and Technology.

6. REGISTRATION

6.1 Registration to the Courses of Study in a Program: - Newly admitted student has to register for the courses prescribed in the first semester of the program to which he/she has been admitted.

6.2 Procedure for Registration: - Registration schedule for the ensuing Semesters shall be announced well in advance by the HODs. **Registration of courses for the second semester shall be made at least one week prior to the end semester NICHE examination of the previous semester.** List of departmental core (both Theory and Practical) Courses, departmental/free electives and supportive/additional Courses including the project (mini/major/summer) offered by each department in the Semesters in question shall be announced by the respective HODs two weeks prior to the date of registration. A Student can register for Course(s) which he/she requires or intends to join during a given Semester on the basis of the program for each discipline as given in the bulletin/prospectus and as per the advice of the supervisor.

Registration forms for Registering Courses in each department shall be filled in and signed by the Student and the supervisor after due scrutiny and verification in addition to checking for no-dues certificate from the NICHE, Library and Hostel, if the student is a hostler. In any case, registration to the

Courses in each department must be completed on or before the prescribed last date for registration.

- 6.3. Students having outstanding dues to the NICHE or Hostel or Library shall not be permitted to Register.
- 6.4. **Late Registration:** - Late registration may be permitted within ten Working days from the date of commencement of the semesters on valid reasons/grounds and on payment of late registration fee, prescribed by the NICHE from time to time.
- 6.5. However, if a Student fails to register during any semester, his/her Studentship is liable to be cancelled.
- 6.6. **Eligibility Criterion for Registering to Higher Semester:** - A student shall be allowed to register to the higher semester provided the Student secures the minimum required attendance in the previous semester, if any:
 - i. The Student has paid all the dues to the NICHE, Hostel and Library on or before registration to the Courses of the higher semesters.
 - ii. The Student has registered for semester-end NICHE examinations during the previous semester.
- 6.7. **Withdrawal from a Registered Course:** - A Student may be granted permission to withdraw from a Course Registered earlier by him/her within ten Working days from the date of commencement of the semester. Further a student is deemed to have withdrawn from the Course, in the event of continuously absenting himself/herself for more than ten Working days from the date of commencement of the semesters. A student who has withdrawn his/her registration for a specific Course shall re-Register to the Course when the same Course is subsequently offered by the concerned department.

7. ATTENDANCE

A Student who has fulfilled the following conditions shall be deemed to have satisfied the requirements for the completion of a semester.

- 7.1. Every Student in a semester is expected to attend all the classes prescribed for each Course as per the announced time table and secure 100% attendance. However, under certain unavoidable circumstances such as medical, personal and family problems,
 - i. A student shall **secure not less than 75% of attendance** (after rounding off to the nearest integer) in each Course to which he/she has registered.
 - ii. **No student who has put in less than 75% of the attendance for a Course shall be permitted to take the end semester NICHE examination of the Course.**
 - iii. **A student who secures less than 65% of attendance in a Course shall not be permitted to write the end semester NICHE examination. He/she is required to re-Register for the respective Course when it is offered and repeat the Course.**
 - iv. However, the HOD shall condone, with the approval of the VC through proper channel, shortage of attendance for a Student in a Course as per the provision below.

- Condonation of shortage of attendance in aggregate up to 10% (65% and above but below 75%) in each semester may be granted by Vice-Chancellor on valid reasons.
 - A student will not be promoted to the next semester unless he satisfies the attendance requirement of the present semester as applicable. They may seek re-admission for that semester whenever it is offered.
 - Students whose shortage of attendance is not condoned in any semester are not eligible to take their end semester examination of that class and their registration shall stand cancelled.
- v. A stipulated fee shall be payable towards condonation of shortage of attendance.

8. PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

8.1. Program Committee: - Every program shall have a Program Committee normally constituted by the HOD. **It acts as the Quality Assurance Circle for improving the quality of the program. The composition** of the Program Committee shall be as follows:

A faculty member of the department nominated by the HOD in consultation with the Dean.	Chairman.
Course Teachers / Supervisors	Member
One Student representative per class normally nominated by the HOD	Member

8.2. Meeting: - It shall meet at the beginning of a semester, at the end of each test and before the NICHE examination. Its responsibilities are as follows:

- i. Provides nature and scope of Continuous Internal Assessments (CIA) in consultation with the Course teachers and announces the same to the students at the beginning of a semester.
- ii. It will discuss the problems concerning curricula, syllabi and conduct of classes apart from periodically reviews on the progress of each class to implement effective teaching-learning process.
- iii. The Chairperson will prepare the minutes of every meeting, submit the same to the HOD within two days of the meeting and arrange to circulate it among the students and teachers concerned. If there are recommendations in the minutes requiring action by the management, the same shall be brought by the HOD to the notice of the management through the proper channel. Any representative of the NICHE may participate in the program committee meetings.

8.3. Research Supervisor: - To help a Student in planning his/her Courses of study as well as for general advice and help on the Academic Program, the HOD shall assign a teacher of the department who shall function as mentor/ adviser/ counselor for the entire period of study of the Student during the first semester. The supervisor shall monitor Courses undergone by the Student, help in planning new/additional Courses to be taken, check his/ her attendance and progress. He/she shall advise and counsel the Student periodically.

- i. Only a full time regular teacher of the NICHE can act as a M. Phil. supervisor. The external supervisors are not allowed. However, Co-Supervisor can be allowed in interdisciplinary areas from other departments

of the same institute or from other related institutions with the approval of the Research Advisory Committee.

- ii. All recognized Research Supervisors for Ph.D. programme of this NICHE are eligible to be the Supervisor for M. Phil. programme.
- iii. Professors, Associate Professors and Assistant Professors can offer guidance at the maximum of 3, 2 and 1 candidates respectively, at any time.

8.4. Change of Supervisors and Transfer of Scholars

Change of Supervisor and Transfer of M. Phil. scholars from one supervisor to another supervisor can be considered on valid reasons. The candidate shall submit a request letter through the proper channel to the Director (Research) who will decide, subject to the approval of BRDC.

9. EXAMINATION

9.1. System of Examination: - Performance of each Registered Student in a Course shall be evaluated based on:

- i. **Continuous Internal Assessment (CIA) Throughout the Semester**
- ii. **End Semester Assessment (ESA) Through End Semester NICHE Examination at the End of the Semester**

Each Course, both Theory and Practical including Dissertation Work etc shall be evaluated for a maximum of 100 marks. For each Course, the Continuous Internal Assessment (CIA) will carry 40 marks and the End Semester Assessment (ESA) in end semester NICHE examination will carry 60 marks.

9.2. Procedure for awarding marks in Continuous Internal Assessment (CIA): -

For all Theory and Practical Courses in each program, the continuous internal assessment (CIA) shall be for a maximum of 40 marks, consisting of 20 marks for tests/Laboratory experiments/model examinations, 10 marks for assignments/presentations and 10 marks for attendance. CIA marks shall be awarded as per the procedure given below:

- i. **Theory Course:** - Two tests each carrying 50 marks in 1 ½ hours duration and one model examination covering the full syllabus carrying 100 marks in 3 hours duration shall be conducted. The best two marks obtained out of three marks put together out of 200 marks shall be reduced for 20 marks and rounded to the nearest integer.
- ii. **Practical Course:** - Every Practical exercise/experiment shall be evaluated based on the exercise/ experiment prescribed as per the syllabus and the Laboratory records maintained on the work done. There shall be one mid-term test for 50 marks of 3 hours duration immediately after 40 Working days and model test for 100 marks of 3 hours duration covering the full syllabus at the end of the semester. The total marks obtained in the mid-term test and model examination put together out of 150 marks, shall be reduced for 20 marks and rounded to the nearest integer.
- iii. **Theory Courses with Laboratory Component:** - If there is a Theory Course with Laboratory component, there shall be three tests. First two tests, each 50 marks in 1½ hours duration, will be from the Theory portions. The third test, 50 marks of 3 hours duration covering the full syllabus, will be for the Laboratory component. The total marks obtained in the better of the two tests in Theory

portions and the Laboratory component put together out of 100 marks shall be reduced to 20 marks and rounded to the nearest integer.

In all the above Courses there shall be two assignments given by the Course teacher and one presentation on the topics, other than those of assignments, chosen by the student in each Course at appropriate intervals each carrying 50 marks. The total marks out of 150 shall be reduced to 10 marks and rounded to the nearest integer.

iv. **Review:** - The HOD shall constitute a Department level Research Committee to review Dissertation work done by the students in a program. There shall be three assessments for 100 marks each. Each Student shall make presentation on the progress and contribution made by him/her before the committee. Marks will be awarded based on the Presentation. The total marks obtained in the three assessments out of 300 marks shall be reduced to 30 marks and rounded to the nearest integer.

v. **Act of Plagiarism**

i. In case of research scholars who have committed the act of plagiarism, his / her degree shall be withdrawn and his / her registration shall be terminated in this NICHE and also he / she shall be debarred to register for any other programme in this NICHE.

ii. For the abetment of above such action, the recognition of the M. Phil. supervisor shall be withdrawn for a period of five years and he / she shall be debarred from guiding the research scholars for any research programme in this NICHE till such period.

vi. **Awarding Marks for Attendance:** - Ten marks for attendance shall be awarded as follows:

Less than 75% of Attendance	Nil
76% to 80% of Attendance	2 Marks
81% to 85% of Attendance	4 Marks
86% to 90% of Attendance	6 Marks
91% to 95% of Attendance	8 Marks
96% to 100% of Attendance	10 marks

9.3. **Requirements for Appearing for End Semester NICHE Examinations:** - A Student shall normally be permitted to appear for the NICHE examinations in his/her registered subjects if he/she has satisfied the semester completion requirements and has registered for the examinations for all the registered courses of the semester.

i. Registration is mandatory for the semester examinations as well as arrears including withdrawn courses in the previous semester examinations failing which the candidate will not be permitted to move to the higher semester.

ii. If a Student has already appeared for course(s) in previous semesters and passed, he/she is not entitled to reappear for the examinations in the same course(s) for improvement of grade(s)/marks.

9.4. **Provision for Withdrawal From End-Semester NICHE Examinations:**

i. A candidate, may for valid reasons and on prior application, be granted permission to withdraw from appearing for the examination of any one course

or consecutive examinations of more than one course in the semester examination(s).

- ii. Such withdrawal shall be permitted only once during the entire period of study of the Degree program.
 - iii. Withdrawal application is valid only if it is made within ten days prior to the commencement of the NICHE examination(s) in the course(s), recommended by the HOD and the Dean and approved by the Director, Academic Affairs.
 - iv. Notwithstanding the requirement of mandatory ten days notice, application for withdrawal prior to the commencement of the NICHE examination(s) in the course(s), in special cases under extraordinary conditions, will be considered on the merit of the case.
 - v. Withdrawal from the end semester NICHE examinations shall not be construed as an appearance for the eligibility of a student to be classified under First Class or First Class with Distinction.
 - vi. Withdrawal from the end semester NICHE examinations is not applicable to arrears courses.
 - vii. The student shall appear for the end semester NICHE examination(s) of the withdrawn courses in the subsequent semesters.
- 9.5. End Semester Assessment (ESA) in End Semester NICHE Examinations:**
- i. There shall be an End-semester NICHE examination of 3 hours duration and 100 marks covering the full syllabus for each course to which a student has registered in a program conducted by the COE.
 - ii. In End-semester NICHE examinations, all internal and external examiners needed for Theory, Practical and Dissertation evaluations, shall be appointed by the COE.
 - iii. External assessment procedures using **double evaluation system** shall be adopted by the COE for Theory Courses. During double valuation if the difference in the mark awarded by the two examiners is not greater than 15%, average of the two marks shall be taken as the marks secured and the results are declared by the COE. If the difference in marks is more than 15%, it shall be referred to the third examiner. Then the marks secured in the third valuation will be compared with the nearest of the other marks and average of the two marks shall be taken for declaring the results. **Hence, revaluation is not permitted after the declaration of the results by the COE.**
 - iv. In the En-semester NICHE examination of a Practical Course, the Lab report is evaluated for 15 marks, viva voce for 20 marks and Practical skills for 65 marks by an external and internal examiner both duly appointed by the COE.
 - v. In the End-Semester NICHE evaluation of Dissertation, the report shall be evaluated for 100 marks by an external examiner (Outside Tamil Nadu) and by the internal examiner (Within Tamil Nadu) for 100 marks. Viva voce is conducted for each student by the external/internal examiner appointed by the Vice-Chancellor from the panel of Examiners recommended by the Dean/HoD through Director Research, for 100 marks. The total marks obtained out of 300 marks shall be reduced to 100 marks and rounded to the nearest integer.

- vi. In a reasonable time frame, the COE office will scrutinize the answer books. Marks obtained in the End - semester NICHE examinations out of 100 shall be reduced to 60 marks and rounded to the nearest integer. The finalized marks of **CIA for 40** and end semester assessment (ESA) in **End-semester NICHE examination for 60** totaling to 100 shall be converted to the corresponding letter grades to be awarded to each Course Registered by a Student in a Program.
- vii. When a course is discontinued to be offered in a semester, due to implementation of new Regulations, those Students who are detained from writing the examination due to inadequate attendance (I-grade) shall take equivalent Course if available or additional Courses as prescribed by the Director, Academic Affairs.

9.6. Passing requirements for a Registered Course in a Program:

- i. A student who secures not less than 50 marks out of total 100 marks prescribed for a registered course with a minimum of 50% (i.e., 30 marks out of 60 marks) prescribed for the End-semester NICHE examination, shall be declared passed.
- ii. If a Student fails to secure a pass in a particular course, it is mandatory that he/she shall register to the examination as arrear and reappear for the examination in the course during the subsequent semester. He/she should continue to register for the examinations in the failed courses till he/she secures a pass.
- iii. The CIA marks obtained by a student in the (There is no second appearance for CIA) registered course shall be retained and considered as valid for all subsequent attempts till the student secures a pass, in the End-semester examination.

9.7. Award of Letter Grades: - Based on the performance, a Student shall be awarded a letter grade corresponding to the marks obtained (out of 100 marks) in each Registered Course in a semester. Each letter grade carries a specified Grade Point (GP) corresponding to a specified marks range as follows:

Marks Range in %	Grade Points (GP)	Letter Grade	Remark
91-100	10	S	Outstanding
81-90	9	A	Excellent
71-80	8	B	Very Good
61-70	7	C	Good
56-60	6	D	Above Average
50-55	5	E	Average
≤49	0	R*	Reappear (Fail)
--	--	I**	Inadequate
--	--	W**	Withdrawn
--	--	Ab**	Absent

* Indicate this will appear only in the Result Sheets.

** indicates this grade will appear both in Grade Card and Result Sheets.

- i. Grading is done by the COE office for each registered course after taking into accounts both the CIA marks and the ESA marks totaling to 100 marks. No

student is considered to have completed a course successfully and earned the credits when he/she secures a letter grade “R” or “I” or “W” or “Ab”.

- ii. Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA) is the ratio of sum of the product of number of assigned credits(C) of a Course to which a Student has Registered and the grade points (GP) corresponding to the grades earned in the Course, taken for all the Courses, to the sum of the number of assigned credits of all the Courses Registered in the semester.

$$SGPA = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n C_i \times GP_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n C_i}$$

- iii. CGPA shall be computed in a similar manner, considering all the courses to which a Student has registered from the first semester onwards.
 - iv. “R”, “Ab”, “I” and “W” grades will be excluded for computing SGPA or CGPA.
 - v. Compulsory non-Academic Courses, audited Courses and withdrawn Courses having only CIA) marks without the end semester NICHE examination marks will be excluded while computing SGPA and CGPA
 - vi. A student who secures “R” grade in any core Course of a Program has to reappear in the subsequent End-semester NICHE examination as arrear subject till he/she secures a pass in the Course.
 - vii. A student who secures “R” grade in the Project Work shall be required to re-Register and carry out the Project Work in the subsequent semester.
 - viii. A student who secures “I”, “W” and “Ab” grade in a Course shall Register and appear in the End-semester NICHE examination in the subsequent semester.
- 9.8. Grade Card:** - After results are declared, Grade Card (GC) shall be issued at the end of each semester to each student which shall contain the following details:
- i. The list of courses and assigned credits for each course registered in that semester, performance in each course shown by the letter grade, the Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA) of all the courses registered in that semester and the Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of all the courses registered from the first semester onwards. The GC shall also contain the list of satisfactorily audited courses. Three copies of the GC shall be prepared and two copies forwarded to the concerned HOD.
- 9.9. Re-Totaling/Photocopy:** - A student may apply for re-totaling/photocopy of his/her NICHE examination answer paper in a Theory Course within 2 weeks from the declaration of results on payment of the prescribed fee through proper application to the COE through the concerned HOD. The COE will arrange for the re-totaling/photocopy of NICHE answer book and the results will be intimated to the student through the concerned HOD.
- 9.10. Procedure for Re-dressal on the Awarded Marks**
 Revaluation of NICHE examination answer book(s) is not permitted in view of double evaluation system. Revaluation is not permitted for Practical Courses, Seminars, Summer Project, Industrial Training and Project Work.

9.11. Eligibility for the Award of the Degree

- i.** A Student shall be declared to be eligible for the award of the Degree if:
 - The student has registered for and passed all the courses prescribed in the curriculum.
- ii.** The student has successfully acquired the required number of total credits as specified in the curriculum corresponding to his/her program within the stipulated time.
- iii. To attain a CGPA of 5.00 or more:**
 - The student should have no dues in the NICHE, Hostel and Library.
 - The student should have no disciplinary action pending against him/her.
 - The student must have successfully completed the Industrial Training/Visit/Camps, if any, as prescribed in the Curriculum.
 - The student must have successfully completed any additional courses prescribed by the Director, Academic Affairs, whenever any candidate is readmitted under the new regulations.

9.12. Classification of the Degree Awarded:

- i.** A Student who qualifies for the award of the degree having passed in all the prescribed courses of the program in his/her first appearance within the specified minimum number of semesters, securing a **CGPA of not less than 8.50** shall be declared to have passed the examinations in **First Class with Distinction. No Student who has obtained R or I or Ab grade in any subject shall be classified under First Class with Distinction.**
- ii.** A student who qualifies for the award of the degree having passed in all the prescribed courses of the program within the courses duration of one year securing a **CGPA of not less than 6.50** shall be declared to have passed the examinations in **First Class.**
- iii.** All other students who qualify for the award of the degree shall be declared to have passed the examinations in **Second Class.**
- iv.** A student who is absent in NICHE examination in a Course/Project Work after having registered for the same shall be considered to have appeared in that examinations for the purpose of classification.
- v.** Ranking will be done separately for each program of study.

9.13. Cancellation of Registration

The registration of a candidate whose progress is either not satisfactory or who has exceeded the maximum period (including extension/grace period) stipulated for the M. Phil., the registration shall be cancelled by Board of Research Development and Consultancy based on the recommendation of the Supervisor & HoD.

9.14. Submission of Dissertation

- i.** Dissertation can be submitted only after the completion of enough working days in the second semester. However, the candidates should have published / presented one paper in a refereed journal or in any reputed international conference / seminar /workshop.
- ii.** The Dissertation shall recorg, in an organized and scholarly fashion, an account of the original research work of the candidate leading to the discovery of new

facts or techniques or correlation of facts already known (analytical, experimental, etc.) and demonstrating a quality as to make a definite contribution to the advancement of knowledge and the candidate's ability to undertake independent research and present the findings in an appropriate manner with actual accomplishments of the work, plainly stated and honestly appraised.

- iii. Four copies of the Dissertation shall be submitted to the Director (Research) in accordance with the format and specification prescribed.
- iv. The supervisor shall forward through HoD, four copies of the Dissertation to the HoD/Dean along with examiners panels of each (A) within Tamil Nadu region (B) Outside Tamil Nadu region.
- v. The Dissertation shall include a certificate from the concerned Supervisor (and Joint Supervisor, Co Supervisor, (if any) to the effect that the Dissertation is a record of the bonafide research work carried out by the candidate under his/her/their supervision and guidance and that the work reported in the Dissertation has not been submitted elsewhere for a degree or diploma.
- vi. Along with the submission of the Dissertation, the candidate shall submit a copy of the Dissertation in CD ROM duly certified by the concerned Supervisor.
- vii. Fees shall be paid by the candidates on year basis, till the submission of the Dissertation; the candidate will submit a no dues certificate from HoD/Dean.
- viii. The HoD/Dean will submit the copies of dissertation along with the panel of examiners to the Director (Research).

9.15 Evaluation of Dissertation

- i. The Dissertation shall be referred to **two** examiners selected by the Vice Chancellor from each panel of names recommended by the Supervisor and HoD through Director (Research).
- ii. The examiner shall include in his / her report an overall assessment, placing the Dissertation in one of the following categories :
 - a. Recommended
 - b. Resubmitted
- iii. The examiner shall enclose a report in about 300 words, indicating the standard attained in case (a), the nature of revision in case (b).
- iv. If both the examiners recommended the award of the degree, Dissertation shall be provisionally accepted. Any minor revision, modification etc., suggested by the examiners shall be carried out by the Scholar and duly certified by the research supervisor before the viva voce examination.
- v. If both examiners recommended rejection, the Dissertation shall be rejected and the registration of the research scholar cancelled.
- vi. If any examiner recommends revision of the Dissertation the candidate shall be permitted only once to revise and resubmit the Dissertation within stipulated time through the Supervisor before the viva voce examination.
- vii. The Director (Research), based on the approval of Vice-Chancellor shall constitute viva voce examination board, within a period of one month from the receipt of the reports from the supervisor.

- viii. Individual cases not covered by the above clauses shall be referred to the Vice-Chancellor. On deemed fit reasons, the Vice-Chancellor shall refer to the Board of Research Development and Consultancy which in turn shall refer to the Board of Management, if necessary.

9.16. Oral Examination

- i. The board of viva-voce examination shall be consists of:
 - a. Dean/HoD as Chairman
 - b. One of the Dissertation Evaluator (within Tamil Nadu region) will be nominated as member by Vice-Chancellor.
 - c. Supervisor as convener
 - d. Co Supervisor, (if any)
- ii. The viva-voce examination shall be conducted in this NICHE as “Open Defense Type” examination. The decision of the Board of Examiners shall be final.

9.17. Award of M. Phil. Degree:

- i. A student will be declared to be eligible for the award of the M. Phil. degree if he/she has a) registered and successfully completed all the core courses, b) successfully acquired the credits in the different categories as specified in the curriculum corresponding to the discipline of his/her study within the stipulated period and c) has no disciplinary action pending against him/her.
- ii. If the Board of viva-voce Examination recommends, the candidate will be awarded M. Phil. Degree with the approval of the Board of Management.
 - i. **Publication of Dissertation:** - Papers arising out of the Dissertation may be published by the candidate. However, the Dissertation as a whole shall not be published by the candidate without the specific approval of the Board of Research, Development and Consultancy of the NICHE.

9.18. Depository with INFLIBNET: - Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and before the announcement of the award of the M. Phil. Degree the NICHE shall submit an electronic copy of the M. Phil. thesis to the UGC directed INFLIBNET.

10. TRANSITORY REGULATIONS

When there is change in curricula and syllabi, the examinations based on the existing curricula and syllabi will be conducted for three consecutive years after implementation of the new curricula and syllabi in order to enable the students to clear the arrears, beyond which the students will have to take examinations in equivalent courses as per the new syllabi in addition to new courses if any as per the new curriculum on the recommendations of the HOD and the Dean concerned and approval from the Director, Academic Affairs.

11. FEEDBACK MECHANISM

Near the end of semesters, when a Course is about to be concluded and when there is almost maximum strength of the students in the class, the Dean in consultation with the Director, Academic Affairs will arrange for the **Feedback** from the Students of the class and the Course teacher of each Course offered by the department in the prescribed formats on the effectiveness of teaching-learning processes and other difficulties faced by the Students on the Course structure, syllabus, facilities, caliber

of the teacher, behavior of the teacher etc as well as difficulties faced by the Course teacher. The Dean in consultation with the HOD will analyze the feedback data to take remedial steps that can be implemented by the HOD and other higher authorities of the NICHE. The report on the drawbacks with action plan may be submitted to the Director, Academic Affairs for further action.

12. DISCIPLINE

Every student is required to observe disciplined and decorous behavior both inside and outside the NICHE and not to indulge in any activity which will tend to bring down the prestige of the NICHE. The Vice- Chancellor shall constitute a Disciplinary Committee consisting of the Director, Student Affairs and two HoDs of which one should be from the faculty of the Student, to enquire into acts of indiscipline and notify the NICHE about the disciplinary action recommended for approval. If a student indulges in malpractice in any of the continuous internal assessment examinations or end- semester NICHE examinations he/she shall be liable for punitive action as prescribed by the NICHE from time to time.

13. REVISION OF REGULATIONS AND CURRICULUM

The NICHE may from time to time revise, amend or change the Regulations, scheme of examinations, curricula and syllabi if found necessary.