

Ph.D. Program : Department of English

The English Department's doctoral program comprises coursework and the completion of an 80,000 to 100,000 word thesis. The department is equipped to offer expert supervision in a range of areas. In addition, the Department will request specialists from other universities to jointly supervise a PhD candidate from our Department when such supervision is required and possible *In this context, we have been in touch with the University of Michigan to explore the possibility of joint supervision in the area of South Asian Literature.*

Due to current situation, the programme slated to begin in August 2020 has been postponed to **January 2021**.

Duration and Structure of PhD Program .

The doctoral program is for a duration of 4 years and in exceptional cases may be extended by a maximum of 1 year. Requirements for a Ph.D. in English are:

- (a) **Course work:** A Ph.D. candidate will be required to complete a number of courses before she writes her dissertation. The department will take into account the qualification of a candidate before deciding the number of courses she is required to do
- (b) **Writing a Dissertation:** The most important component of a Ph.D. in English is an original 80,000 to 100,000 words thesis on a predesignated topic that candidate will be required to complete through the course of her PhD .
- (c) **Oral Examination:** After the dissertation has been evaluated by three external examiners and found to be worthy of a Ph.D. degree, the candidate will be required to appear for an oral examination.

Areas of Research at SNU

The English faculty at SNU has wide-ranging, interdisciplinary research training reinforced by diverse learning and teaching experience in Indian and international universities.

It encourages students to apply for PhDs in the following areas:

- *The novel in 19th century England and Europe.*
- *The early novel in India*
Vernacular literary cultures
- *Dalit studies*
- *Translation studies*
- *The contemporary novel*
- *Literary theory*
- *The relationship between the literary and visual*
- *Cultural connotations of disease and medicine in 19th century England and India*
forms of narrative after the novel
- *Literature and technology*
- *Digital humanities*
- *Print journalism in 19th century England and India*
- *Folklore studies*

- *Language change in north India.*
- *Popular literature in early 20th century India,*
- *Modernist cultures in India.*

Please look at the faculty pages to know the specializations of individual faculty members.

Minimum eligibility criteria

A master's degree in any English Literature or any allied discipline with minimum of 55 percent or its equivalent in grade point from a UGC recognized university.

All applicants are required to pay a non-refundable application fee of ₹ 1,200.00 (Rupees One Thousand Two Hundred Only). The application fee may be paid online or through a Demand Draft (drawn in favour of "Shiv Nadar University" payable at NOIDA) sent to the address mentioned at the end of this document.

Application process

The applicant must start by clicking the "Apply Now" button to access our online application portal:

<https://applications.snu.edu.in/OnlineAppPG/public/application/register/index>.

On entering the portal, the applicant will need to:

1. Register themselves on the portal
2. Fill all the mandatory fields
3. Upload the following documents:
 - i. Passport-size color photograph
 - ii. Latest CV
 - iii. Photocopy of marksheets of all previous degrees and certificates from class 10 onwards. Marks/grades as well as name of awarding institution must be clearly visible on each document.
 - iv. Standardized Examination certificate such as UGC-NET (if applicable)
 - v. A Statement of Purpose (SoP) of 1200 words that clearly spells out the applicant's reasons for interest in the PhD programme (in 400 words) and the research idea they want to work on (in 800 words).
 - vi. A writing sample (of minimum 3,500 words)

Additionally, two academic letters of recommendation will need to be emailed directly by the referees to the Executive Officer of the English Department Mamta Nagar at mamta.nagar@snu.edu.in

Note: For an application to be considered complete, online registration, filling up of mandatory fields, uploading of required documents, emailing of recommendation letters and sending on hardcopy of the application must be ensured. An application will be considered incomplete if these requirements are not met. Incomplete applications are rejected at the screening stage by the Graduate Admissions Committee.

Written Examination and Interview

Candidates whose applications are complete in all respects will be invited to take a written exam and appear for an interview.

In the written exam, candidates will be asked to write an essay of 20 marks and 5 short notes of 10 marks each. The exam will be of 150 minutes duration.

The examination will be designed to test (a) the candidate's grasp over her stated field of research interest (b) her knowledge of basic research methodology and (c) her ability to grasp and summarize complex and extended arguments in the field of literary criticism.

The interview will involve conversations about the candidate's academic trajectory, domain knowledge, and research idea as articulated in the Statement of Purpose.

Selection Process

The Department follows a three-stage selection process overseen by its Graduate Admissions Committee.

Stage one involves screening of received applications for completeness, accuracy and authenticity. Screening is done ensure that the applicant has met the minimum eligibility criteria for applying and that an application is complete in all respects. Applications that are found to be incomplete are rejected at this stage.

The Graduate Admissions Committee may also decide not to invite a candidate for the written examination and interview, if the written material submitted by her is found to be sub-standard.

Stage two consists of a written exam and an interview. Those applicants whose applications pass the first stage are invited to take a written exam and appear before the Departmental Committee for an interview. These are marked components with 70 percent for the written exam and 30 percent for the interview.

Stage three involves evaluation of written exam and interview performance, creation of a merit list, and declaration of result.

Key dates

Due to the continuing situation concerning the outbreak of Covid-19, the department has decided to further extend the deadline for submission of applications and change in commencement of the program. The changes are as follows:

- Last for applying online: September 15 2020

Address for sending in hard copy of the application via speed post
The Executive Assistant to the Head of the Department

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Ms. Mamta Nagar, Executive