

5. Award of Degree (Ph. D.)

- 5.1 If satisfied with the synopsis, the Doctoral Committee shall permit the candidate to submit the thesis. The thesis examiners will be appointed as per the procedure detailed below:
1. The Dean-Academic of a CI will forward the synopsis and a list of six examiners, as recommended by the Doctoral Committee to the Convener, Board of Studies (BOS) in the relevant discipline.
 2. The Convener, BOS-relevant discipline, in consultation with the BOS members will shortlist four examiners, who may or may not be from the list recommended by the Doctoral Committee. The Convener then will forward both the list of examiners one by the Doctoral Committee and the other by the BOS, to Dean, HBNI.
 3. The Dean, HBNI after the approval of Director, HBNI will communicate the approved list of examiners to Dean-Academic as well as to the Convener, BOS.
 4. In case of clarifications, if any, the Dean, HBNI will get back to Convener, BOS. After the clarification, procedure at Sr. No. 3 will be repeated.
- 5.2 The student shall submit to the Dean-Academic `soft` as well as the requisite number (to be specified by the Chairman, Doctoral Committee) of `hard` copies of the thesis within three months of approval of the synopsis by the Doctoral Committee. This time limit may be relaxed by the Dean-Academic in deserving cases. The Dean-Academic shall take the responsibility of forwarding the thesis to first two examiners in the list prepared by the Board of Studies and monitor subsequent correspondence with them. The Board shall also ensure that each examiner's report concludes with specific recommendations that the thesis be (i) accepted, (ii) accepted after revisions, or (iii) rejected.
- 5.3 The examiners are expected to submit their report within eight weeks of the date of receipt of the thesis.
- 5.4 In case of undue delay in receiving the thesis report, the Dean-Academic may approach the person next on the list of examiners to act as an examiner.
- 5.5 In case the thesis is rejected by both the examiners, the registration of the student shall be cancelled.
- 5.6 In case one or both the examiners suggest revisions, the suggested revisions shall be communicated to the candidate and, after having been duly revised, the thesis shall be re-sent to the examiners if so recommended by him/her. Else, the Doctoral Committee will decide about acceptability of the revisions.
- 5.7 In case the thesis is rejected by both the examiners even after revisions are made, the registration of the student shall be cancelled.
- 5.8 If report of only one of the examiners is negative, then the Doctoral Committee can either ignore that report or go for a third opinion.
- 5.9 If the third examiner also declares that the thesis is not acceptable for award of the degree, the student shall be asked to revise it within a time period stipulated by the

Doctoral Committee. The Doctoral Committee shall then take a decision about further processing of the revised thesis.

- 5.10 In case the thesis is accepted for award of the degree, the Doctoral Committee shall act as the viva voce board and conduct the viva voce examination of the student as soon as possible after giving two weeks notice to the student. One of the Thesis Evaluators, as decided by Director, HBNI, shall be a member of the Viva Voce Board. If the Board is satisfied with the performance of the student, it shall sign its report recommending the award of the degree to the student. If the viva voce Board is not satisfied with the performance of the student, it shall fix another date which shall not be earlier than a month after and not later than six months from the date of the first viva. If the performance of the student is unsatisfactory even in the second viva, the matter shall be referred to the Board of Studies for a decision. The viva voce Board, if satisfied with the performance of the student shall sign its report recommending the award of the degree to the student,
- 5.11 Students may present themselves for oral examination only twice and the report of the viva voce Board signed by all members must reach the office of Dean HBNI through Dean-Academic of the CI for the award of the degree.