

Main Features of the MPhil–PhD Programme



1. Programme Structure

The MPhil and PhD are regarded as two streams within the MPhil – PhD Programme.

2. Student Status

Each student in the MPhil – PhD Programme will at any one time be classified into one of the following three categories:

- (a) MPhil Student;
- (b) PhD student (pre-candidacy); or
- (c) PhD student (post-candidacy), or PhD candidate for short.

Students will be offered admission as either an MPhil student or a PhD student (pre-candidacy).

4. Study Periods

Degree	Mode	Candidacy ¹ (month)	Normative Period (month)	Maximum Period (month)
MPhil	FT	--	24	48
	PT	--	36	60
PhD (entering with a research master's degree)	FT	24	36	72
	PT	32	48	84
PhD (entering without a research master's degree)	FT	36 ²	48	84
	PT	48	64	100

¹ Maximum period to pass candidacy examination, counted from first entry.

² PGS will stop at the 25-month if the student cannot pass the candidacy examination, but will resume in the following month upon passing the candidacy examination.

3. Progression to Candidacy & Candidacy Requirement

No student will be admitted directly as a PhD student (post-candidacy); such status can only be gained by a PhD student (pre-candidacy) upon satisfying all the candidacy requirements. Only a PhD candidate can submit a thesis and be examined.

The candidacy requirements of each Division shall include at least the following components:

- (a) course requirements;
- (b) candidacy examination;
- (c) thesis proposal and defence of proposal.