

**School of Global Affairs (SGA)**  
**Dr B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD)**  
(Established by the Government of the National Capital Territory of  
Delhi) Lothian Road, Kashmere Gate, Delhi- 110 006

**Bulletin of Information**  
**PhD Programme (Urban Studies) 2023-24**

**School of Global Affairs (SGA)**

SGA offers a range of interdisciplinary, diverse and overlapping programmes in global studies, urban studies and public health that support, encourage and redefine liberal arts education through a number of interdisciplinary courses, participatory pedagogy and teaching-learning processes.

**PhD Programme in Urban Studies**

The School of Global Affairs offers admission on an annual basis to a PhD Programme in Urban Studies which emphasizes the development of research competency. Research scholars shall acquire or improve skills for effective review of and engagement with scholarship in their chosen areas of research. They are helped to discover and apply methodologies necessary to carry out original research through a variety of sources with a view to evolving interdisciplinary and connected engagement with Urban Studies. Research scholars will actively contribute to the intellectual life of the University through regular communication about research work with faculty and fellow students. The main output of Urban Studies research scholars' efforts will be a thesis.

**Program Details and Requirements**

- The PhD program strictly adheres to the rules and regulations of the University Grants Commission, as they are enforced and revised from time to time. The current regulations in force can be found [Minimum Standards & Procedures for Award of Ph.D Degree Regulations, 2022](#)
- The PhD program is guided by as per university norms.
- Minimum duration of **three years** and maximum duration is **six years**.
- Doctoral candidates are required to complete a course work of 12 credits in the first year (two semesters) of admission, including a “Research and Publication Ethics” course.
- All the candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be required to complete the Ph.D. course work prescribed by the School.
- Participation in course work presumes a scholar's residence in Delhi region during the officially recognized academic year/ sessions and the scholar's regular attendance of classes and related academic activities.

- A doctoral supervisor is appointed from the School within a year of admission to the program. Experts and scholars with academic credentials from outside the School or university can be appointed as co-supervisors in case the candidate requires additional or specialized guidance.
- A Research Advisory Committee (RAC) is appointed for every candidate, with the supervisor as the convener of the committee. The RAC advises the candidate and monitors her/his/ their progress in the PhD program.
- Every candidate is expected to complete the six milestones of the PhD program
  - ✓ Course work
  - ✓ Presentation and defense of a research synopsis
  - ✓ Pre-submission presentation
  - ✓ Pre-submission requirements of conference presentations and publication
  - ✓ Production of an original thesis
  - ✓ Viva-voce examination of the PhD thesis

### **Fees**

- Rs. 2000/- per credit for Course Work, and
- Rs. 7000/- per semester during Research/ Dissertation
- Rs. 500/- per semester for Student Welfare Fund
- Rs. 5,000/- as refundable Security Deposit
  - Partial/full fee waivers are available as per University norms.

### ***Stipend for Research Scholars***

- At present, all PhD candidates who are not drawing any other scholarship/ fellowship are eligible for a stipend of Rs. 16,000/- per month for a maximum duration of three (03) years, subject to satisfactory work progress in every semester. The amount and duration may be revised by the University from time to time.
- “AUD Research Excellence Scholarship” will be awarded to 25 meritorious candidates in the University, commensurate with UGC-JRF (Social Sciences and Humanities) fellowships. Other scholarships and research internships may be announced by the university from time to time.
- PhD candidates may be employed as Teaching Assistants subject to need of the School and the approval of their supervisors and Chair RSC. Teaching Assistants will be paid a remuneration as per University norms.

### ***Hostel***

- AUD has about 40 seats for women candidates in its hostel at Kashmere Gate
- Details of admission to the hostel can be found [here](#).

## Admission to the Ph.D. Programme (2023-24)

Potential applicants to the PhD program are encouraged to familiarize themselves with research specializations at the program level. The research profiles of doctoral supervisors are available below:

Name of the Supervisor	Designation	Area of Specialization
Dr. Shekhar Tokas	Assistant Professor	International Migration, Urban Economy and Human Capital, International and Urban Education, Forced Migration and Urban Refugees
Dr. Pritpal Singh Randhawa	Assistant Professor	Urban Infrastructures, Poverty, Rural-urban linkages, Peri-urbanization, Sattelite Towns, Urban Social Movements
Dr. Rohit Negi	Associate Professor	Urban Political Ecology, Cities and Science and Technology Studies (STS), Urban Space and Built Environments , Urban Theory
Dr. Soma Sarkar	Assistant Professor	Urban Environment; Regional Planning; Disaster Management; Remote Sensing & GIS
Dr. M. M. Anees	Assistant Professor	Remote sensing and GIS applications for urban management, Urban green space planning, Urbanization dynamics, Urban vulnerability assessment, Spatial patterns of urbanization and ecology
Dr. Rachna Mehra	Assistant Professor	Urban history, planning small towns, cities in transition, sensorial urbanism
Dr. Bhawna Bali	Associate Professor	Urban governance, infrastructure and livelihoods; rural-urban linkages/peri-urbanisation; urban heritage and cultural norms; sustainable urban development
Dr. Tanya Chaudhary	Assistant Professor	Urban Livelihoods/Labour and Informality, Displacement and Migration , Urban Space and Planning
Dr. Nidhi Tewathia	Associate Professor	Role & Impact of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Urban Economy, Rural-Urban Digital Divide, ICT & Urban marginalised groups (unorganised women workforce, gig workers etc)

### *Areas of Research*

1. Urban History, Heritage
2. Urban Politics and Social Movements
3. Urban Environmental Studies
4. Housing and Infrastructures
5. Rural Urban Interactions/Linkages
6. Urban Economy and Labour

## *Seats*

- **Total seats: 13**
- Reservations are as per the rules of the university and orders of the Government of NCT of Delhi, as applicable from time to time.
- Candidates' proposed research should align with the specializations of the Urban Studies Programme Faculty of SGA. The School reserves the right to decline admission to candidates in cases where the topic does not align with faculty specializations or the School does not possess the necessary infrastructural requirements/ laboratories.
- **Eligibility:-** as per [Minimum Standards & Procedures for Award of Ph.D Degree Regulations, 2022](#)

## *Procedure for Admission*

- The admission to the PhD program is based on a two-stage process consisting of an Entrance Test and a Personal Interview.
- Applicants are required to submit an original Research Proposal at the time of online application.
- The research proposal must clearly delineate the tentative research theme/focus/area which the applicant proposes to study. The research proposal should give a background of the proposed research, its broad questions/ objectives and a brief description of the relevant theoretical/conceptual frameworks. The word limit for the research proposal is 2500 words.
- Applicants are required to apply online on the admissions portal of the University with relevant documents.
- Applicants are strongly advised to regularly check the [University Admissions](#) regularly for details, updates and modifications.
- The Entrance Test shall be qualifying with qualifying marks as 50%. The syllabus of the Entrance Test shall consist of 50% of research methodology and 50% shall be subject specific.
- The Entrance Test will comprise subjective and objective-type questions based broadly on understanding of social sciences, humanities, urban issues, theoretical and conceptual framework.
- An interview will be organized for the qualified applicants. The interview/viva voce shall consider the following:
  - i. whether the applicant possesses competence in the proposed research area.
  - ii. whether the research can be undertaken at the programme.
  - iii. whether the faculty had an expertise to supervise applicants research area.
  - iv. whether the proposed area of research can contribute to new/additional knowledge in the field.

- The Entrance Test shall be of 70% weightage and performance in the interview shall carry a weight of 30%.
- The interview, the Entrance Test and exemptions from the Entrance Test are guided by the UGC Regulations 2022: - <https://aud.ac.in/uploads/4/admission/admission-2023/phd/minimum-standards-and-procedure-for-award-of-phd-regulations-2022.pdf>

The timelines related to the admissions process, date of Entrance Test and Personal Interview, and venue of the Test and Interview, and declaration of merit list will be announced on the University admissions website.

***Fees for Applications***

<b><i>(SC,ST, PwD, EWS )</i></b>	<b><i>(UR, OBC)</i></b>
<b><i>400 INR</i></b>	<b><i>800 INR</i></b>

**IMPORTANT**

Please consult the [University admissions website](#) regularly for details and updates.

For any queries, write to Dr. Pritpal Randhawa, at [prtipal@aud.ac.in](mailto:prtipal@aud.ac.in)

- Regulations Concerning Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) : [Minimum Standards & Procedures for Award of Ph.D Degree Regulations, 2022](#)