



SOMAIYA
VIDYAVIHAR UNIVERSITY



Somaiya Vidyavihar University



1st For Placements
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8 Decades of Legacy
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45th in India
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Somaiya School of Civilisation Studies Website:

<https://sscs.somaiya.edu/en>

**PH.D. (HISTORY)
ADMISSION MANUAL**

2025

Visit for Further Details:

<https://www.somaiya.edu/en/phd/>

For Applications:

<https://admissions.somaiya.edu/>

About the Research Centre

The **Somaiya School of Civilisation Studies** is uniquely positioned to offer a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of civilisation through its distinguished centres: the Centre for Asian & Area Studies, the Centre for Himalayan & Mountain Studies, the Centre for Transoceanic Studies, and the Centre for Kachchh & Desert Studies.

The concept of civilisation is essential to understanding our collective past, present, and future. In today's rapidly changing world, there is an urgent need to reconceptualise civilisation. This involves not only revisiting the classical definitions but also adapting them to contemporary global dynamics. Our School fosters a critical understanding of how civilisations develop, interact, and influence one another, providing invaluable insights into the cultural and social fabrics that shape human experiences. The School of Civilisation is dedicated to fostering a deeper understanding of the complexities of human societies.

Interdisciplinary Approach:

Our doctoral programme encourages interdisciplinary approach, aiming to integrate perspectives and methodologies from history, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, international relations, literature, law, and technology. This holistic approach will ensure a well-rounded education that equips learners with the analytical tools needed to understand complex cultural phenomena and their implications for the world we live in.

A doctoral research project in history hinges on the candidate's ability to consult archival repositories, decode primary source, and deploy appropriate qualitative and quantitative methods. The center encourages candidates to utilize a multi-pronged approach, combining textual analysis, oral history methodologies, ethnographic techniques, and digital humanities tools. Historical research is enriched through a resounding engagement with primary sources such as government records, trade logs, personal correspondences, travelogues, writings, speeches, and visual materials. Digital archives, GIS mapping, and computational history are increasingly becoming indispensable tools in contemporary historiographical research. The integration of statistical methods in historical analysis, particularly through economic and social history, offers innovative pathways for reinterpreting past phenomena. History is inherently interdisciplinary, decussate with fields such as anthropology, political science, economics, sociology, literature, and environmental studies to name a few. The School advocates for a transregional, transcontinental, and transoceanic approach to historical research to recognizes the fluidity of cultural, economic, and intellectual exchanges across geographical boundaries.

Registered Ph.D. Guides for History:

Dr. Gaurav Gadgil, Associate Professor (History)

Centre for Asian & Area Studies, Somaiya School of Civilisation Studies

Research Areas: Anti-colonial struggles, history of ideas, literary history, urban studies

Dr. Gadgil has taught at various reputed educational institutions for over 15 years, and has an interest in History, International Relations, and Sociology. He has been a President of India Gold Medal winner, delivers talks at prestigious platforms, and has worked on a Research Fellowship awarded by the K.R. Cama Oriental Institute.

Eligibility for Applying to Ph.D. Programme in History

- 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 as per UGC regulations.
- Candidates possessing a Degree considered equivalent to Master's Degree of an Indian Institution, from an accredited Foreign Educational Institution, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country for the purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to Ph.D. Programme.
- A person whose Master's dissertation has been evaluated and the viva-voce is pending may be admitted to the Ph.D. Programme but subject to completion of Master's degree before provisional admission to SVU Ph.D. Programmes.
- The candidates should have passed SET/ NET/JRF examinations from UGC recognized University.
- A candidate MUST have a qualified score of Ph.D. Entrance Examination of SVU – mandatory eligibility criteria for all candidates applying for Junior Research Fellowship.
- Candidates will have to present their proposed research theme to a Selection Committee constituted by the School after fulfilling their basic eligibility conditions. Admissions to the programme will be based on the qualifying exam, presentation to the selection committee, and availability of guide(s).

Eligibility Criteria	
Graduation Degree	Double Major or Single Major in History and Anthropology/ Sociology/ Political Science/ Psychology/ Philosophy/ Archaeology/ Economics/ Culture Studies/ Mass Media/ International Studies OR Liberal Arts/ Liberal Studies OR Any Graduate Degree recognised by the UGC
Post-Graduation Degree with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent as per UGC regulations.	MA/ MSc. in History OR Double Major or Single Major in History, and Anthropology/ Sociology/ Political Science/ Psychology/ Philosophy/ Archaeology/ Economics/ Culture Studies/ Mass Media/ International Studies OR Liberal Arts (Major in History)

Exemption Criteria for SVU Ph.D. Entrance Examination
Candidate who has qualified NET with JRF However, the candidates who fulfill the above criteria MUST fill the application form as per the schedule displayed on the website.

Documents required at the Time of application-

- Mark sheets of Graduate and Post-Graduate Degrees (Statements of Marks)
- Degree Convocation Certificate for UG and PG studies.
- NET-JRF/ NET /SET/ Ph.D. Entrance Test Certificate
- Valid Identity Card and Address proof.

Syllabus for Somaiya Vidyavihar University Entrance Test (JRF) – History
Ancient Indian History

Prehistoric cultures in India

Indus Civilisation – Origins – the different phases – society, economy, and culture – Contacts with other cultures-factors lead to the decline.

Vedic society-Vedic texts- change from Rigvedic to later Vedic phases.

Upanishad thought political and social organization, the evolution of the Varna system.

Formation of the State and urbanization, from the Mahajanapadas to the Nandas.

Causes for the rise of Buddhism and Jainism – Factors for the spread of Buddhism.

The Mauryan Empire- Chandragupta and Megasthenes.

Asoka and his inscriptions, his dhamma, culture, administration, and art

Society of Post-Mauryan India, BCE 200- CE 300 – Evolution of Jatis.

The Satavahanas and formation of the state in the Peninsula.

Sangam texts and society.

Indo-Greeks, Sakas, Parthians, Kushans, Kanishka-Contacts with the outer world.

The Guptas and their descendants – Literature, Science, Arts, Economy, and Society – Modification in the political organization of empire

Medieval Indian History

Early Medieval India. Major dynasties; Political and Agrarian organization. Status of women, Extent of social mobility.

The Arabs in Sind and the Ghaznavids.

9th to 12th Century CE: Rajput States, Ghori, and the emergence of Delhi Sultanate

Delhi Sultanate: Five Dynasties, Development of urbanization and commerce, Spiritual movements in Hinduism and Islam, Literature, Architecture, Technological changes.

The 15th and early 16th Century: Key Provincial dynasties; Vijayanagara Empire.

First stage of the Mughal Empire (1526-1540 CE), The Sur Empire and administration (1540-1556 CE)

Monotheistic movements: Kabir; Guru Nanak and Sikhism; Bhakti.

The spread of regional literature, art, architecture, culture, and Sufism.

The Mughal Empire, Akbar: administrative measures, Policy of Sulh-I-Kul. Jagir and Mansab systems; Jahangir, Shahjahan, and Aurangzeb: extension of Mughal empire in the Deccan; religious policies. Emergence of Indo-Persian art, architecture, and literature.

Maharashtra dharma, Shivaji and Rise of the Maratha power in 17th century Deccan.

18th Century India – Decline of Mughal Empire, Rise of Maratha Confederacy under the Peshwas, and regional states.

Composite culture: Music, Performing Arts, regional languages, and the rise of Urdu language

Modern Indian History

British imperial expansionism: The Carnatic Wars, Battles of Plassey and Buxar, Anglo-Mysore Wars, Anglo-Maratha Wars, Anglo-Nepalese Wars, Anglo-Sindh War, and Anglo-Sikh Wars.

Economic Impact of the British Raj: land revenue settlements like Zamindari, Ryotwari, Mahalwari; Deindustrialization; Railways and commercialization of agriculture; increase of landless labour.

Cultural encounter and social changes: the inception of western education and modern thoughts. Indian Renaissance, religious and social reform movements; Social reforms events before 1857. Development of Indian middle class; the vernacular press and its effects: the rise of modern literature in Indian languages.

Confrontation to British rule: Early uprisings; The 1857 Revolt-reasons, character, course and result.

Indian Freedom struggle the first stage: Growth of national consciousness; creation of Associations; Establishment of the Indian National Congress and its Moderate stage; Swadeshi Movement; Economic Nationalism; The development of Extremism and the split in Congress; The policy of Divide and Rule; Congress-League Pact of 1916.

Gandhian thoughts and techniques of mass mobilization- Civil Disobedience, the Khilafat movement, Non-Cooperation Movement, and Quit India Movement; another strand in the National Movement-Revolutionaries, Subhash Chandra Bose, and the Indian National Army.

Separatist movements in Indian politics- the Hindu Mahasabha and the Muslim League; Partition and Independence; The post-1945 developments.

Constitutional History of India: Regulating Act (1773), Pitt's India Act (1784), Charter Acts (1793 – 1853), Indian Councils Act (1861 – 1909), Government of India Acts (1919 & 1935), Indian Independence Act (1947).

India since independence: Constituent Assembly Debates, Jawaharlal Nehru's vision, Non-alignment, Planning and state-controlled industrialization.

History of the World

18th Century CE – Industrial Revolution, American War of Independence, French Revolution (1789), and Napoleon Bonaparte

19th Century CE – Marxist thought, trade union movements, nationalism, and imperialism

20th Century CE – World War I and II, Decolonization, Political Philosophies like Communism, Capitalism, Neo-Marxism, Post-Modernism, etc.— their forms and effect on the society.

Somaiya Vidyavihar University Ph.D. Entrance Test (SVU-PET)

- All the applicants are required to appear for SVU-PET and qualify by acquiring a score of 50% and above. Candidates qualified in the CSIR-UGC and other national tests for Junior Research Fellowships are exempted from the entrance test, but have to appear for the personal interview.
- **Paper - 1 Qualitative Test – 40 marks**
 - a) Essay Writing – 20 marks
 - b) Comprehension – 20 marks
 - (50% choice in selecting questions in paper I)
- **Paper – 2 Subject Specific Test – 60 marks**
 - a) Multiple Choice Questions – 20 marks
 - (Attempt 20 out of 30 questions)
 - b) Subjective Questions – 40 marks (with 50% Choice)

Sr.No.	Application & Admission Process
Ph.D. Pre-selection Phase	
1.	Advertisement / Call for SVU Ph.D. entrance exam on website /media handles
2.	Acceptance of the applications for Ph.D. entrance examination along with the applications processing fee
3.	Execution of Ph.D. entrance examination for all Ph.D. programmes
4.	Interviews of candidates before an expert panel
5.	Announcement of the name of selected candidates for provisional admission: Selection process complete
Provisional Admission Phase	
6.	Provisional admission and payment of fees in accounts/admin office of the colleges.

7.	Orientation and initiation of course work (1 year – 2 semesters)
8.	First semester encompasses research methodology & publication ethics along with subject specific topic. Second semester majorly focus on building research, technical & soft skills. It includes research activities, lab rotation and research proposal drafting & presentation and its evaluation.
9.	ATKT examination for the semester I and II for unsuccessful candidates or for grade improvement
10.	Issue of mark sheets for course work of semester I and II
Allotments & Registrations	
11.	Allotment of the guide at individual institute / department level (ideally within the first six months of provisional admission)
12.	Topic approval of the thesis work within 2-3 months after Qualifying course work Examination, subject to approval from the Doctoral Advisory Committee.
13.	Registration for Ph. D Programme

Fee Structure of Ph.D. Program (This is common across disciplines, all categories of students)		
Particulars	@Total Fees per annum (₹)	
	First Year	Second Year Onwards
Tuition Fee	30,000/-	30,000/-
Development Fee	10,000/-	10,000/-
Examination Fee	10,000/-	10,000/-
Caution money Deposit (Refundable)	1,000/-	-----
Library Deposit (Refundable)	2,000/-	-----
Total (₹)	53,000/-	50,000/-
@ If paid provisional admission fee then should be deducted from total fee		
Link for fees payment (Fees will be accepted via online payment gateway only and in no case, it can be paid using any other type of mode of payment and to any office/person)	https://myaccount.somaiya.edu	

Registration, Synopsis & Ph.D. Thesis Submission Fees	
Particulars	Amount
Registration fees	5000/-
Approval of Synopsis of Ph.D. Thesis Topic	5000/-
Ph.D. Thesis Submission	10000/-
Total	20,000/-
Note: 1. Registration fees to be paid by the Ph.D. scholars before submitting the application for Registration for Ph.D. 2. Synopsis & Ph.D. Thesis Submission fees to be paid by the Ph.D. scholars before submission of synopsis.	

Fee Payment schedule for provisional admission, and for subsequent years of Ph.D. Programme			
Program Academic Year	Particulars	Amount in Rupees (₹)	Payment Schedule
First Year	Total fee	53,000/-	Within eight days from the date of receiving the offer letter
Second Year and onwards	Total fee	50,000/-	Within first week from the commencement of the new Academic Year
Link for fees payment (Fees will be accepted via online payment only and in no case it can be paid using any other mode of payment and to any office/person)		https://myaccount.somaiya.edu	
Note: Students have to pay the full fees of the program per year till the submission of the thesis			

Admission Cancellation policy of Ph.D. programme (All Categories of Ph.D. Students)		
If the candidate has accepted the allotted seat by paying the fees and later chooses/decides to withdraw from the programme of study, then cancellation option is available at his/her MyAccount login. The college shall follow the below system for deduction of fees against the cancellation request for the candidate.		
Sr. No.	Point of time when the application for admission cancellation is received by the college	Applicable Deduction
1	15 days or more before the date of commencement of academic term	Rs 5,000/-
2	Less than 15 days before the date of commencement of the academic term	10% of total fees
3	Less than 15 days from the date of commencement of the academic term	20% of total fees
4	On or beyond the 15th day but within six weeks from the date of commencement of the academic term	50% of total fees
5	More than six weeks from the date of commencement of the academic term	100% of total fees
Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total Fees for the program per year is Rs. 50,000/- for All Categories of Ph.D. Students Tentative date of commencement of every academic term will be announced on website. 		

Contact:
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