

CENTRE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

PhD (Social & Behavioral Science)

(N-DL/310/8/0037) (10/25) (MQA/FA9818) - ODL

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The programme focuses intensively on preparing candidates for academic careers and to conduct highly specialised scholarly research, both in theory and application. The focus will be more on the development of new theory in psychology, sociology and cultural studies, political science and civics, and also economics.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Produce original research at the doctoral level.
- Conceptualize, design and implement projects for the generation of significant new knowledge and/or understanding.
- Create, interpret and disseminate knowledge which extends the forefront of the social & behavioural science (SBS) discipline.
- Make informed judgments on complex issues in specialised SBS fields, and create innovations in tackling and solving problems.
- Appreciate research implications and effectively convey research findings according to SBS needs.
- Disseminate the research findings by publishing, conducting and participating in academic journals, forums and seminars, etc.

RESEARCH AREAS

Psychology

- Conversational Therapy
- Development & Child Psychology
- Psychoanalysis
- Psychology
- Psychotherapy

Sociology & Cultural Studies

- Criminology
- Cultural Geography
- Cultural Studies
- Demography/Population Studies
- Ethnology
- Futurology
- Gender Studies
- Geography (social)
- Human Geography
- Regional Cultures
- Social Anthropology
- Social Conflict Theory
- Social Geography
- Sociology
- Women Studies

Political Science & Civics

- Civics
- Human Rights
- International Relations
- Peace & Conflict Studies
- Political History
- Political Sciences
- Politics

Economics

- Econometrics
- Economic History
- Economics
- International Economics
- Macroeconomics
- National Accounts
- Political Economy

AUDIT COURSES

- Research Methodology
- Quantitative Data Analysis
- Qualitative Data Analysis

RESEARCH STAGE

Stage 1

- Audit Courses
- Appointment of Supervisor
- Preparation of Research Proposal
- Proposal Defence

Stage 2

- Data Collection

Stage 3

- Thesis Writing

Stage 4

- Thesis Submission
- Appointment of Examiners
- Thesis Evaluation by Examiners
- Thesis Examination/ Viva Voce

PROGRAMME DELIVERY

Delivery Mode	Full-Time Study	Part-Time Study
Open & Distance Learning (ODL)	3 years 6 months	4 years 8 months

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

MALAYSIAN

The minimum entry requirements are as follows:

- Possess a recognised Master's degree; OR
- Other equivalent recognised qualifications with a Master's degree

Additional Requirements:

- A statement of research intent, describing what you have already done and what you hope to accomplish in your doctoral research
- A curriculum vitae (CV) or resume

Any of the above conditions would require student's research proposal to be approved.

INTERNATIONAL

The minimum entry requirements are as follows:

- Possess a recognised Master's degree; OR
- Other equivalent recognised qualifications with a Master's degree

Additional Requirements:

- A statement of research intent, describing what you have already done and what you hope to accomplish in your doctoral research
- A curriculum vitae (CV) or resume

Any of the above conditions would require student's research proposal to be approved.

Minimum English Language Requirements for International Students:

- Minimum score of 5.0 for IELTS; OR
- Minimum score of TOEFL IBT 40; OR
- Minimum score of 5.0 for MUET; OR
- Other recognised equivalent test

Those who have their tertiary education in English will normally be exempted from the above requirement.

Note: If a student does not meet this requirement, AeU will offer English proficiency courses to ensure that the student's proficiency is sufficient to meet the needs of the programme.

**Terms and conditions apply.*



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***Information is accurate as of June 2025 and is subject to change without prior notice, if applicable.*