

## Master of Philosophy

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Name of Degree</b></p> <p><b>Full title</b></p> <p><b>1.2. Abbreviated title</b></p>	<p>Master of Philosophy (Education) අධ්‍යාපන දර්ශනපති</p> <p>Master of Philosophy in Education</p> <p>MPhil(Ed)</p>
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>University/Institute</b></p> <p><b>2.1 Faculty</b></p> <p><b>2.2 Department</b></p>	<p>National Institute of Education</p> <p>Alternative Education and Teacher Education</p> <p>Teacher Education</p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Details of the Degree Programme</b></p> <p><b>3.1. Background to the programme</b></p>	<p>The Department of Teacher Education of the NIE has the mandate to offer courses of studies leading to a degree by virtue of the NIE having such power by Act, No.28 of 1985.</p> <p>This is a programme designed for education professionals who want to develop their research knowledge and skills. The programme is one of research training, a pathway opened by the NIE which aims to provide educators with the analytical and practical expertise required for educational research and an overview of research methods used within the social sciences. The programme will appeal to applicants from diverse backgrounds who are interested in developing a career in educational research and professionals working in education institutions and organizations requiring expertise in research,</p>

### **3.2 Justification**

The programme covers a wide variety of introductory and advanced courses on both quantitative and qualitative research methods as well as courses that address important philosophical issues in relation to social science research, with specific reference to education. Advanced workshops, seminars and master classes take place throughout the year and educators will have the opportunity to participate in these programmes.

The programme offers a wide variety of perspectives and approaches that educators can engage in.

### **3.3 Objectives**

The objectives of MPhil (Education) Degree Programme is to develop the capacity of a graduate with an advanced knowledge in the field of education, to conduct advanced research.

a candidate is required to carry out high level research under the guidance of a Supervisor holding equal or above qualifications who had made a significant contribution to the education discipline. The research may be pure discipline-based or multidisciplinary.

The candidate should submit a thesis incorporating research findings, which are assessed and accepted by the Board of Examiners. The research must satisfy peer review and should be suitable for publication. The candidate may also be required to follow some course work as preparatory work or for value addition to research.

**3.3.1 Attributes of MPhil Degree Qualification Holders**

The qualification holders:- should be able to

- demonstrate critical awareness of current issues in education
- to apply techniques relevant to professional practice.
- to carry out independent pure and/or applied research contributing significantly towards the development of Education
- to supervise and evaluate original research carried out by others in the field of Education leading to qualifications of SLQF levels up to 9.
- to make judgment on complex and controversial issues in the area of education and communicate his/her ideas and conclusions clearly to specialist and non specialist audiences.
- to demonstrate self direction and originality in tackling and solving problems and be able to plan and implement tasks at professional levels.
- Qualification Descriptors applicable to SLQF Level 11.

The course comprises the six subjects PE 1101, 1113,1122,1132,1142,1154

**3.4 Eligibility Requirements**

An applicant fulfils the minimum eligibility requirements to be admitted to the approved programme leading to the Degree of Master of Philosophy, if he /she has anyone of the following qualification.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Master of Education degree from a recognized university/ institution.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Master of Arts in Teacher education degree (MATE) from a recognized university/ institution.</li> </ul>
	<b>3.5 Admission Process</b>	The required number of candidates for the programme will be based on criteria decided by the National Institute of Education
	<b>3.6)Proposed Student Intake</b>	Maximum of 20 students per batch
	<b>3.7) Programme duration and credits</b>	
	<b>3.7(b) Special Degree/Professional</b>	
		<p><b>Duration:</b> 3 Yrs.  School vacation can also be used as full time according to the needs.  This is the period between the effective date of registration of the programme and the final examination including major/minor corrections.</p> <p><b>To complete the Degree:</b>  <b>The maximum duration</b>  This usually corresponds to the permitted duration. However, in special situations, this duration may be extended by the Faculty Management Committee for up to six years, on a case by case basis, giving reasons for such recommendation by the Faculty. Under exceptional circumstances, the Faculty Management Committee at its discretion may grant a period not exceeding 12 months, over and above the maximum duration.</p> <p>Course Work: 14 Credits</p> <p>Thesis -Research</p>
4	<b>General</b>	
	4.1 Type of Degree (General+ Special/Professional): Professional	

## 4.2 Structure and Design of Curriculum.

Course Work- five Subjects

Research Work- Thesis Seminar (PE 1160) Thesis (PE 1170)

### 4.2 Structure and Design of Curriculum

The programme of study will consist of 14 credits of course work within two semesters.

### 4.3 Course Synopses

1) Credit, Contact hours, Individual Hours

Course Code	Subject	Credit
PE 1101	Introduction to Research Methods	1
PE 1113	Quantitative Research Methods	3
PE 1122	Qualitative Research Methods	2
PE 1132	Mix Research Methods	2
PE 1142	Research Communication	2
PE 1154	Comparative and International Education	4
PE 1160	MPhil Thesis Seminar	-
PE 1170	Thesis	-

### MPhil Thesis Seminar

#### Objective

The purpose of the MPhil Thesis Seminar is for students to share aspects of their research as it develops with their supervisors and other interested academics and students. As such, it serves to encourage students to synthesize the evidence they have gathered thus far, thereby helping them to researcher their materials into manageable form as their research proceeds. Further, students will receive feedback from others interested in their area of study, assisting them in considering aspects they might not otherwise have addressed. Sharing material with others in the Department also spreads the research: if staff and other students are aware of what graduates are researching, they can refer relevant material to them as they come across it. The Seminar also serves as a training space for preparation and presentation of papers at academic conferences.

### **Preparing to Presentation**

The student and supervisor should jointly decide on a schedule for preparing each Research Seminar presentation. The student must consult their supervisor before signing up; Coordinator will check with all supervisors before confirming the schedule of seminars.

### **Attendance**

The Seminar should preferably be attended by all members of the student's Committee of Advisors and by the Discipline Coordinator, who will normally act as Chair. The minimum staff presence shall be: the Supervisor; one other member of the Committee of Advisors/Discipline acting as Independent Assessor; and one other member of the Discipline/Department. It is the supervisor's responsibility to ensure that this minimum requirement is met. If appropriate, the Chair may be other than the Discipline Coordinator.

### **Format**

The written paper should be 10-15 pages long, appropriately formatted and referenced in APA style. The reading of the paper should take 30-45 minutes. There will be at least 15 minutes scheduled for questions, feedback and discussion.

These are to be given to the Supervisor to assist him/her in offering guidance to the student after the seminar, and in deciding whether it merits being counted towards the degree requirements. Others may also offer written feedback on the forms provided, which may be taken into account at the supervisor's discretion

## **MPhil Thesis Seminar Chapters**

Introduction, Literature Survey, Methodologies, Results & Analyze

### **Publication**

MPhil studies represent an original contribution to the existing literature and, as such, the students would be encouraged to submit their work for publication. Publishing their work is a useful part of the student's training. It encourages the student to think about how best to break their thesis down into clearly defined papers and also to build the various elements to make one coherent piece of work (the thesis). The student and supervisors should discuss the goals with respect to wider publication of their MPhil work at an early stage.

### **Examinations and Evaluation Procedure- Thesis**

On successful completion of the course requirements the performance of a student shall be assessed on the basis of a thesis and a seminar based on the research and an oral examination.

(i) The thesis shall be examined by three examiners at least one of whom shall be an examiner external to the place where the research work was carried out.

(ii) The oral examination will be conducted by a Panel of Examiners appointed by the Director (examinations). The Panel of Examiners may accept the thesis, recommend corrections/amendments and/or further work, or recommend the award of the degree or reject the thesis. The corrections/amendments and/or further work as recommended shall be completed and the thesis shall be re-submitted in the revised form within a period of time as specified by the Panel of Examiners.

(iii) The final results will be released by the Results Board subject to confirmation by the Department of Examinations of the National Institute of Education.

### **Initial Submission and Evaluation of Thesis**

Three copies of the thesis in temporary binding should be submitted in the first instance by the candidate through supervisor/s and the coordinator, Director (TE) to the Director (Examinations). The Director (Examinations) will dispatch a copy of the thesis to each examiner as recommended by the Higher Degree Committee in consultation with the supervisor/s for evaluation. The examiners will send the evaluation reports to the Director of Examinations. If both reports are favorable the reports of examiners will then be sent to Director (TE) so that the

candidate will be informed through the supervisor/s about any corrections and/or modifications, to be effected as may be suggested by the examiners.

If one or both examiners suggest major revision/rejection of the thesis the Director (Examinations) shall send the reports to the Department of Teacher Education to take appropriate action. In cases where there are major revisions of thesis, three copies of the revised thesis in temporary binding should be submitted by the candidate through supervisor/s and the coordinator, Director (TE) to the Director (Examinations).

### **Oral (Thesis Defense) Examination**

If the thesis has been evaluated favorably by both examiners, the Director, Examinations will request the Chairman of the relevant Board of Study to call the candidate to a thesis defense examination. In cases where there are major revisions of thesis, the oral examination will be held after the revised report is re- examined and evaluated by the examiner/s.

### **Constitution of Panel of Examiners**

1. Director General or his nominee shall be the Chairman
2. Three examiners including the two thesis examiners (Where the thesis examiner/s is/are not available, the relevant Board of Study shall nominate suitable person/s)
3. The Supervisor/s shall be present as observer/s
4. Director (TE)
5. Director (Examinations)
6. Programme Coordinator

The panel of examiners will submit a report on the suitability of the candidate for the award of the degree. A candidate whose thesis is recommended for the award of the degree is required to make all corrections, revisions etc. as required by the Panel, if any, and resubmit four copies of the thesis to the Director/TE

Final Submission of Thesis four or more copies (depending on the number requires of supervisors) of the thesis (in permanently bound form), with corrections/revisions if any, prepared according to the guidelines to be made through the Supervisor and the Chairman of the relevant Board of Study to the Director (TE) within the specified period of time as recommended by the panel of examiners for consideration by the Results Board. The supervisor/s is/are expected to certify the corrections, revisions etc.

**The effective date of the degree should be a date subsequent to the expiry of the minimum duration of a given programme.**



If the Panel of Examiners determines that both the thesis submitted and the oral examination is of acceptable standards, the effective date shall be as follows:

(a) The oral examination held within three months from the date of submission of the thesis.

i. If the thesis is accepted without corrections and handed over in bound form to the Department of Teacher Education within one month after the oral examination, the effective date shall be the date of the oral examination.

ii. If the thesis is accepted with minor corrections and submitted in bound form to the Department of Teacher Education within one month of the oral examination with all the corrections made by the candidate as required by the Panel of examiners and certified by the supervisor(s), the effective date shall be the date of the oral examination.

iii. If the thesis is accepted with minor corrections and submitted in bound form to the Department of Teacher Education after one month of the oral examination with all the corrections made by the candidate as required by the Panel of examiners and certified by the supervisor(s), the effective date shall be the date of the final submission of the thesis.

(b) In the event of the oral examination held after three months from the date of submission of the thesis due to no fault of the candidate,

i. If thesis is accepted without corrections and handed over in bound form to the Department of Teacher Education within one month after the oral examination, the effective date shall be the date on which THREE months have elapsed since the submission of the thesis.

ii. If the thesis is accepted with minor corrections and submitted in bound form to the Department of Teacher Education within one month of the oral examination with all the corrections made by the candidate as required by the Panel of examiners and certified by the supervisor(s), the effective date shall be the date on which THREE months have elapsed since the submission of the thesis

If the Panel of Examiners determines that the thesis submitted is acceptable with major corrections, then the candidate is required to resubmit the thesis to the Department of Teacher Education with all the corrections being made. The effective date shall be determined, after the evaluation of the resubmitted thesis, according to (a) or (b).

If the Panel of Examiners determines that the thesis submitted is of acceptable standard, but the oral examination is to be repeated due to unsatisfactory defence, then the effective date will be determined by (a) or (b), based on the repeat oral examination.

However, a candidate is allowed only one such attempt to repeat the oral examination for the same qualification (MPhil degree).

In case the Panel of Examiners determines that the thesis submitted/oral examination is not of acceptable standard for the degree sought (MPhil) even after satisfying the conditions a or b (above), but is of acceptable standard for a lesser

qualification specified by the Panel of Examiners, then the effective date will be determined as applicable to the recommended lesser qualification.

**15. Any other relevant information not stated above**

**Interview:**

**The interview panel should comprise the following members:**

1. Director General or nominee as chair
2. Deputy Director General (Faculty of Alternative and Teacher Education)
3. Director (Department of Teacher Education)
4. Supervisor
5. Programme Coordinator

The interview shall verify the acceptability of the research proposal and determine the availability of resources for the research at the department. The interview results will be recorded in the prescribed form. The Director (TE) submits the interview record form and the application to with the Higher Degree Committee with their recommendation to the Faculty management committee. The Faculty management committee will approve and send the form back to the Department of Teacher Education. When the application is confirmed by the Faculty management committee, the student can start the formal registration process.

**Registration Process**

Applicants eligible as stated in section 3.4 above can register only provisionally and are allowed for normal registration only after successful performance in a qualifying interview conducted by a panel of examiners appointed by the Director General.

## **Registration for the programme of study for the Master of Philosophy Degree (Education)**

- **Date of commencement:** Since the faculty management committee admits students to the research degrees in monthly intakes the date of commencement will be regarded as the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the particular intake.
- **Leave taken during the period of study:** Students may take leave during their study period but should inform the Department of Teacher Education in advance to get the necessary approval for the period of leave. Normally, the period of maternity leave; period of absence due to medical reasons concerning student; and period of absence due to overseas assignments, will be added to extend the minimum and maximum permitted durations. Period of leave taken due to other reasons ( e.g. due to personal reasons) will not be considered for such extensions.
- An individual has to be eligible for admission, and be so admitted to the programme of study leading to the award of the Master of Philosophy in accordance with the regulations.
- To be eligible to register for the programme a student shall have obtained the prerequisites for admission specified in the regulations for the award of the Master of Philosophy
- Candidates once registered on the programme will be allowed to postpone the whole programme for one year only from the date of the first registration. An appeal should be made within 30 days of the first registration in order to consider the postponement.
- A candidate unable to complete the programme within the registered academic year, if he wishes to continue the programme the following academic year has to register for that particular academic year determined by the Institute in order to complete the programme.
- Registration and Re-registration will not be entertained after the stipulated dates as laid down by the NIE.

### **After the registration**

Once the students get registered they need to inform the Department of Teacher Education and collect the student's profile form. All students should fill and submit this student's profile form through the Programme Coordinator and Director for faculty approval, within one month after the registration.

**Cancellation of registration:** If in the judgment of the Supervisor and the Director (Department of Teacher Education) the performance of a candidate is consistently unsatisfactory over a period of 12<sup>th</sup> months, the candidate's registration may be cancelled by the Faculty management Committee on the recommendation of the Director (TE).

### **During the process**

- a) Ensure that the research undertaken by a student is within both the supervisor's and the student's interests and capabilities and is relevant to the department.
- b) Ensure that the students' research is conducted in a timely and professional manner.
- c) Ensure that students are provided with timely, critical and constructive comment on the content and drafts of their thesis and other written matter.

### **Meetings between the Student and Supervisors**

The time table of meetings between student and supervisors must remain flexible. However the following recommendations are designed to guide students and supervisors on the frequency and recording of such meetings:

- i. Supervisors should meet with students shortly after registration and maintain contact through an agreed schedule of supervisory sessions.
- ii. The majority of supervision meetings would be expected to be face-to-face.
- iii. Meetings should be, on an average, not less than once per fortnight in the first year and once per month thereafter for students.
- iv. It would usually be sufficient to set aside one hour for the supervision meeting; however the length of the meeting will depend on the agenda.

v. Meetings may be with one or more supervisors, depending on the agenda.

vi. Supervisors should be accessible to students at other reasonable times when advice may be needed.

### **Change of title**

Students should discuss the title of their thesis with their supervisors. The Institute must be notified using the appropriate form which should be completed by the student and supervisor, and submitted for signature by Director of teacher education and the Faculty management committee. Students may also need to notify their funder.

### **Change of supervisor**

If students wish to change a supervisor due to re-location, research or personal reasons, it is usually possible and desirable to do this by discussion between student and supervisor(s). If agreement cannot be reached then a Director of Teacher Education can be approached to make the final decision. The institute must be notified using the appropriate form which should be completed by the student and supervisor and submitted for signature by a Director of teacher education and the Faculty management committee. Students may also need to notify their funder.

### **Candidates should adhere to the following conditions and regulations in submitting a thesis for Degree of MPhil by the National Institute of Education.**

1.0 The thesis shall consist of the candidate's own account of his/her research. It must form a distinct contribution to knowledge and offer evidence of originality shown by the exercise of independent critical power and/or by the discovery of new knowledge. It must be a satisfactory scholarly presentation.

A candidate shall not submit a thesis or part thereof on which a Degree has been conferred upon him/her by this or any other University. A Candidate may which has not already been embodied in an earlier thesis of the candidate.\

- 2.0 The thesis shall be submitted in three (3) copies in temporary binding.
- 3.0 Each copy shall be word processed on clean white paper of A 4 size (210 x 297 mm). On type of paper must be used throughout the thesis. Papers of different quality and size may be used for figures, plates, maps etc.

Any standard type is acceptable and letters of Font size 12 must be used throughout the thesis. The use of bold type headings and italics for emphasis is permitted. For headings and subheadings letters of font size 14 and be used.

All typing should be on one side of the papers only, 1.5 spaced, with the left hand margin not less than 40 mm. The right hand margin not less than 15 mm and top and bottom margins not less than 30 mm.

Photostats should be clearly legible and free from mugging.

- 4.0 Drawings, diagrams, maps etc. should be clear and may be reproduced by photographic or other processes. They should carry a title and a number preferably on the same page.
- 5.0 The general format of the thesis shall be as follows:
- A Title Page
  - B Declaration
  - C Acknowledgements
  - D Abstract
  - E Table of Contents
  - F List of Tables – (if any)
  - G List of Figures – (if any)
  - H List of Plates – (if any)
  - I List of Abbreviations
  - J Main Body of Text
  - K List of References (Bibliography)
  - L Appendices – (if any)

**A. The Title**

The title shall be the title approved by the Higher Degree Committee of the NIE. It should be informative and descriptive of the work done.

**B. Declaration:**

The thesis shall contain a statement to the effect that the work is the result of the candidate's own investigation and that it has not been submitted for candidature for a degree/diploma of this or any other University. When the thesis is submitted as partial fulfillment of the degree/diploma, it should be so stated.

**C. Acknowledgements:**

The candidate shall acknowledge the assistance that has been given by theirs in the collection of material, design and construction of apparatus, performance of experiments, preparation of the thesis, financial support etc.

**D. Abstract:**

This shall consist of a summary of the study not exceeding 350 words. An English translation of the abstract will be required. The title of the thesis, name of author and the degree for which the thesis is submitted should be indicated.

**E. Table of Contents:**

This should include the main titles and sub titles of the chapters and their respective page numbers.

**F. List of Tables:**

All tables included in the text should be given in a list with their titles, respective numbers and page numbers.

**G. List of Figures:**

If any figures are included in the text they shall be given in a list with their titles, respective numbers and page numbers.

**H. List of Plates.**

If any plates are included in the text they shall be given in a list with titles, and their respective numbers and page numbers.

**I. List of Abbreviations:**

If any abbreviations are used in the text they shall be given in a list.

**J. Main Body of the Text:**

The main body of the text shall include at least five chapters as follows:

- An Introductory chapter including an introduction to the study, statements of the problem, objectives of the study.
- Survey of prior research related to the present study.
- Research design and Methodology.
- Presentation of results, analysis and discussion.
- Conclusions and recommendations.

References should be cited in the text by author and year and not numbered.

Notes may be placed at the foot of each page or at the end of each chapter.

**K. List of References:**

All references should be listed at the end of the main text of the thesis with names of authors arranged alphabetically.

**L. Appendices:**

Appendices if any shall be numbered and included after the list of references (bibliography).

**6.0 Number of Pages:**

Each page in a thesis should be numbered in consecutive order. This includes illustrative material as well as text.

For the preparatory pages (title page to abbreviations) small Roman numerals should be used and placed 15 mm below the midpoint of the top edge of the page.

All pages of the main body of the thesis, beginning with the Introduction or Chapter I up to the end of appendices, should be numbered with Arabic numerals.



The first page of each chapter (eg. The first page of a Chapter) need not to be numbered. All other pages must be numbered 20 mm below the midpoint of the top edge of the page.

#### **7.0 Numbering Tables and Figures:**

Tables, figures and plates should be numbered with Arabic numerals according to chapter number, with decimals. Eg. The third figure in chapter I should be numbered as 1.3.

#### **8.0 Length of Thesis/Dissertations:**

The length of a thesis submitted for MPhil Degree shall not exceed between 200-300 pages. Minimum words are 95000

#### **9.0 Submission of Examination:**

The candidate should submit three copies of the theses in temporary binding, to the Department of Teacher Education, Examinations with a letter of recommendation from the supervisor. This letter should recommend that the thesis meets the standards laid down by the Institute for the relevant degree and to accept the same for examination.

The Board of Examiners may either accept or reject a thesis or, if the thesis though inadequate is of sufficient merit they may recommend that the candidate be allowed to re-submit his/her thesis in a revised form within a specified period of time.

#### **10.0 Final Submission:**

A candidate whose thesis is accepted by the Board of Examiners for the award of a degree is required to make all corrections, revisions etc. as required by the Board and re-submit the 3 (three) copies of the thesis in a fully bound form to the Department of Teacher Education .

After the release of the results two (2) of the copies shall become the property of the Institute and the other shall be returned to the candidate.

### **11.0 Specified Colours and Bindings:**

Each copy of the thesis should be bound with cloth, Rexene or material of equivalent quality. The cover should be in the colour specified for the particular degree and the lettering in gold colour.

Specified Colours: MPhil Degree                      Brown

The cover should carry the full title of the thesis, name of candidate, degree sought and the year of degree. If the approved title is too long, the approved title should be shortened in consultation with the supervisor and, should be printed on the spine.

### **12.0 Authorization for use of the Thesis:**

A candidate will be requested to sign a release form which would permit the Institute the use of the thesis for scholarly purposes.

### **Medium of Instruction**

The Programme will be offered in English, Sinhala and Tamil.

### **Course Structure**

- Discipline and Specific subject areas

Each candidate should select one of the following recommended disciplines /specific subject areas to conduct his/her research study.

Psychology, Early childhood Education, Education Technology, Teacher Education, Curriculum Studies, Management in Education, Aesthetics Education, Student Assessment, any other area in the field of Education.

### **Programme outline**

A research proposal in the area of study of the thesis shall be submitted before application for registration. The title and scope of the thesis shall be submitted for approval of the Higher Degree committee before registration. The submission of the research proposals will result in the appointment of temporary supervisors to improve the proposals. Thereafter, the candidate has to make a presentation of the final draft of the proposal before a panel of lecturers and prove the adequacy and the relevance of the study to the discipline. Finally, the research proposal should be submitted for approval to the Higher Degrees committee. On approval of the proposal appointment of Permanent Supervisors will be made before registration.

The research proposal once approved by the Higher Degrees Committee cannot be changed except under special circumstances. Any amendments to the title of the thesis shall be submitted for approval at least six months before the end of the academic year in which the candidate proposes to submit the thesis.

The MPhil degree will be awarded for a thesis completed on a research study in a specified field under the guidance of a supervisor appointed by the Higher Degree Committee. The results of the research shall be presented in the form of a thesis. The format of the thesis and number of copies to be submitted shall be according to the regulations of the National Institute of Education. Every student is required to conduct a seminar on the subject of his/her research at least six months prior to the submission of the thesis. No thesis will be accepted for examination unless this requirement is fulfilled.

Students should adhere to the requirements made by the Higher Degrees Committee in relevance to the course from time to time.

Students shall submit the thesis at the end of the third academic year after registration.

### **Course work**

1. All students must follow the course work at the very outset of the course as an orientation to the MPhil Programme to facilitate the development of the research proposal.