

Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science

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Abstract

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree is universally recognized as the highest academic qualification awarded by institutions of higher education. It represents the culmination of advanced study, rigorous research, and original scholarly contribution to a particular field of knowledge. Within the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science, the Ph.D. program serves as a vital platform for the generation of new ideas, critical analysis of social realities, preservation of cultural heritage, and development of innovative solutions to contemporary societal challenges. The fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy involves a comprehensive and systematic process that demands intellectual commitment, academic discipline, methodological competence, and ethical responsibility. Through this process, scholars are expected to make meaningful contributions to existing knowledge while developing expertise in their chosen areas of specialization.

The purpose of this study is to examine the various academic, research, and institutional requirements associated with obtaining a Doctor of Philosophy degree in the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science. The study explores the significance of doctoral education, the stages involved in doctoral research, and the standards that scholars must meet to successfully complete their degree requirements. It emphasizes that doctoral education is not merely the completion of an academic program but a transformative intellectual journey that develops advanced research capabilities, critical thinking skills, and professional competence. Through intensive engagement with theoretical and practical dimensions of research, doctoral candidates become capable of addressing complex issues affecting individuals, communities, and societies.

Doctoral research within the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science encompasses a broad range of disciplines, including education, sociology, economics, political science, history, geography, psychology, philosophy, language studies, cultural studies, anthropology, public administration, and related fields. Research in these disciplines plays a crucial role in understanding human behavior, social institutions, cultural practices, economic systems, and political processes. The knowledge generated through doctoral studies contributes significantly to academic discourse, policy formulation, social development, and institutional improvement. Consequently, the fulfilment of doctoral requirements carries substantial importance not only for individual scholars but also for society as a whole.

The study highlights that the doctoral process begins with the identification of a research problem that addresses a gap in existing knowledge. A well-defined research problem forms the foundation of the entire investigation and guides the development of research objectives, questions, and hypotheses. Following the identification of the problem, scholars undertake a comprehensive review of relevant literature to understand previous research findings, theoretical perspectives, and methodological approaches. The literature review enables researchers to establish the significance of their study, identify areas requiring further investigation, and develop a strong conceptual framework for analysis.

An essential component of doctoral research is the selection of an appropriate research methodology. Depending on the nature of the research problem, scholars may employ qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-method approaches. The chosen methodology must be capable of generating reliable and valid data that can effectively address the research objectives. Methodological rigor is a critical requirement for doctoral studies because it ensures the credibility and academic value of research findings. Researchers are expected to

demonstrate competence in research design, sampling procedures, data collection techniques, analytical methods, and interpretation of results.

The study further emphasizes the importance of ethical considerations in fulfilling doctoral requirements. Academic integrity and ethical conduct are fundamental principles of scholarly research. Doctoral candidates must adhere to ethical standards related to honesty, transparency, confidentiality, informed consent, and responsible reporting of findings. Ethical compliance protects the rights and dignity of research participants while ensuring the credibility of academic work. Universities and research institutions increasingly emphasize research ethics as an essential requirement for the successful completion of doctoral programs.

Another significant requirement for obtaining a Ph.D. degree is the preparation of a comprehensive thesis or dissertation. The doctoral thesis represents the culmination of years of research effort and serves as evidence of the scholar's ability to conduct independent and original research. A successful thesis demonstrates a clear understanding of the research problem, mastery of relevant literature, appropriate methodological application, critical analysis of findings, and meaningful contribution to knowledge. The dissertation must be written in accordance with academic standards and subjected to rigorous evaluation by experts in the field.

The study also examines the role of thesis evaluation and viva voce examination in the doctoral process. After the completion of the dissertation, it is reviewed by external and internal examiners who assess its quality, originality, relevance, and scholarly contribution. Scholars are then required to defend their research findings through an oral examination, commonly known as a viva voce. This stage provides an opportunity for candidates to demonstrate their understanding of the research topic, justify methodological decisions, and respond to critical questions raised by examiners. Successful completion of the viva voce signifies that the candidate has achieved the level of expertise expected of a doctoral scholar.

In addition to academic requirements, the study acknowledges the challenges commonly faced by doctoral candidates. These challenges include financial constraints, time management difficulties, limited access to resources, research-related stress, and balancing personal and professional responsibilities. Despite these obstacles, doctoral scholars continue to pursue advanced research due to their commitment to knowledge creation and professional development. Effective supervision, institutional support, research training programs, and access to academic resources play important roles in helping scholars overcome these challenges and successfully complete their doctoral studies.

The importance of doctoral education extends beyond individual academic achievement. Research conducted within the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science contributes to broader societal goals by addressing critical issues such as social inequality, educational development, cultural preservation, economic growth, environmental sustainability, governance, and community welfare. The findings generated through doctoral research often inform public policy, support evidence-based decision-making, and promote social innovation. As a result, the fulfilment of doctoral requirements contributes directly to national development and global knowledge advancement.

The study further recognizes that the contemporary academic environment increasingly emphasizes interdisciplinary research and international collaboration. Doctoral scholars are encouraged to engage with diverse theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches to address complex societal challenges. Such engagement enhances the relevance and impact of research while promoting intellectual diversity and innovation. Consequently, doctoral education serves as a bridge between academic inquiry and practical problem-solving in an increasingly interconnected world.

Introduction

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree is regarded as the highest academic qualification awarded by universities and institutions of higher learning throughout the world. It represents the culmination of advanced education, independent research, and scholarly excellence. The attainment of a Ph.D. degree signifies that an individual has developed the intellectual capacity, methodological expertise, and analytical skills necessary to contribute original knowledge to a particular academic discipline. Within the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science, doctoral education occupies a central position in the promotion of research, innovation, and critical inquiry into various aspects of human life and society. The fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy is therefore not merely an academic formality but a comprehensive process aimed at producing competent researchers, educators, policymakers, and intellectual leaders.

The Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science encompasses a wide range of disciplines that focus on understanding human behavior, social institutions, cultural traditions, historical developments, economic systems, political structures, and educational processes. These disciplines play an essential role in analyzing societal challenges and generating knowledge that can contribute to social progress and sustainable development. Doctoral research conducted within these fields often addresses complex issues such as poverty, inequality, education, governance, cultural preservation, social justice, environmental sustainability, communication, and community development. As societies continue to experience rapid social, technological, and economic transformations, the need for advanced research in arts and social sciences has become increasingly important.

The Ph.D. degree serves as a mechanism through which scholars investigate these complex issues in a systematic and scientific manner. Unlike undergraduate and postgraduate education, which primarily focuses on acquiring existing knowledge, doctoral education emphasizes the creation of new knowledge. Scholars pursuing a Ph.D. are expected to identify gaps in current understanding, formulate relevant research questions, and conduct original investigations that contribute to academic discourse. This requirement for originality distinguishes doctoral research from other forms of academic study and underscores its significance within the broader educational framework.

The process of fulfilling doctoral requirements begins with the selection of a suitable research topic. A doctoral candidate must identify a research problem that is relevant, significant, and capable of contributing to existing knowledge. The chosen topic should address a gap in the literature, provide new insights into a particular issue, or offer innovative solutions to practical problems. Selecting an appropriate research problem is one of the most important stages of doctoral study because it determines the direction and scope of the entire research project. A well-defined research problem enables scholars to develop clear objectives, formulate research questions, and design an effective methodological framework.

Following the identification of the research problem, doctoral candidates are required to undertake an extensive review of literature. The literature review serves multiple purposes within the research process. It allows scholars to understand existing theories, concepts, methodologies, and findings related to their chosen topic. Through critical examination of previous studies, researchers can identify areas where further investigation is needed and establish the significance of their own work. The literature review also provides a theoretical foundation that guides the interpretation and analysis of research findings. In this sense, it represents a crucial component of fulfilling doctoral requirements and ensuring the academic rigor of the study.

Another essential aspect of doctoral education is the development of research methodology. Methodology refers to the systematic procedures used to collect, analyze, and interpret data. The choice of methodology depends on the nature of the research problem and the objectives

of the study. Scholars in the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science often employ qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-method approaches depending on the specific requirements of their investigations. Qualitative methods are commonly used to explore human experiences, perceptions, and social interactions, while quantitative methods facilitate the measurement and statistical analysis of social phenomena. Mixed-method approaches combine the strengths of both qualitative and quantitative techniques to provide a more comprehensive understanding of research problems. The ability to select and apply appropriate research methods is a fundamental requirement for obtaining a Ph.D. degree.

In addition to methodological competence, doctoral scholars are expected to adhere to high standards of academic integrity and ethical conduct. Research ethics constitute an important aspect of doctoral education because they ensure the credibility and reliability of scholarly work. Ethical research practices include obtaining informed consent from participants, maintaining confidentiality, avoiding plagiarism, accurately reporting findings, and respecting the rights and dignity of individuals involved in the study. Universities and research institutions place considerable emphasis on ethical compliance because violations of research ethics can undermine public trust and compromise the validity of research outcomes. Therefore, ethical responsibility is considered an integral requirement in the fulfilment of doctoral degree obligations.

The preparation of a doctoral thesis or dissertation represents the central component of the Ph.D. program. The thesis serves as a comprehensive document that presents the entire research process, including the research problem, literature review, methodology, findings, discussion, and conclusions. Through the thesis, scholars demonstrate their ability to conduct independent research and contribute original knowledge to their field of study. A doctoral dissertation is expected to exhibit intellectual depth, methodological rigor, analytical clarity, and scholarly originality. The quality of the thesis often determines whether a candidate successfully fulfills the requirements for the award of the doctoral degree.

The evaluation of the doctoral thesis constitutes another important stage in the doctoral journey. Universities typically appoint internal and external examiners who assess the quality, originality, significance, and academic merit of the dissertation. The evaluation process ensures that the research meets established academic standards and contributes meaningfully to existing knowledge. Following the assessment of the thesis, candidates are generally required to participate in a viva voce examination. During this oral defense, scholars present and defend their research before a panel of experts. The viva voce provides an opportunity for candidates to demonstrate their understanding of the research topic, justify their methodological choices, and respond to critical questions regarding their findings and conclusions. Successful completion of the viva voce signifies the scholar's readiness to join the community of independent researchers and academics.

The importance of doctoral education extends far beyond the individual scholar. Research generated through doctoral studies contributes significantly to the advancement of knowledge, policy development, and social transformation. In the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science, doctoral research frequently informs educational reforms, public policies, community development initiatives, cultural preservation programs, and governance strategies. The findings of doctoral studies often provide evidence-based recommendations that assist governments, institutions, and organizations in addressing social challenges. Consequently, doctoral research serves as a valuable bridge between academic inquiry and practical application.

Furthermore, the fulfilment of doctoral requirements contributes to the development of highly skilled human resources capable of addressing contemporary global challenges. Doctoral graduates often assume leadership roles in universities, research institutions, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private sector enterprises. Their expertise

enables them to contribute effectively to decision-making processes, policy formulation, and knowledge dissemination. In an increasingly knowledge-driven world, the role of doctoral scholars has become essential for fostering innovation, critical thinking, and sustainable development.

Despite its significance, the doctoral journey is often characterized by numerous challenges. Scholars may encounter difficulties related to financial resources, access to data, time management, research complexity, publication requirements, and balancing academic responsibilities with personal commitments. The process of conducting original research requires perseverance, dedication, and resilience. Effective supervision, institutional support, academic mentoring, and access to research resources are therefore critical factors in facilitating successful completion of doctoral studies. Understanding these challenges and developing appropriate support mechanisms can enhance the quality and effectiveness of doctoral education.

In the contemporary era, doctoral education has become increasingly globalized and interdisciplinary. Scholars are encouraged to engage with diverse perspectives, collaborate across disciplines, and address complex problems that transcend traditional academic boundaries. This interdisciplinary orientation has expanded the scope and relevance of doctoral research within the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science. By integrating multiple perspectives and methodological approaches, researchers can generate more comprehensive and impactful knowledge capable of addressing contemporary societal needs.

Review of Literature

1. John W. Creswell (1951–2024)

Publication Year: 2014

Book: *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches*

John W. Creswell emphasized the importance of selecting appropriate research designs according to the objectives and nature of a study. He argued that qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-method approaches each have distinct strengths and applications. His work has become a fundamental reference for doctoral scholars in social sciences and humanities. Creswell highlighted that a well-structured research design enhances the validity, reliability, and credibility of scholarly investigations.

2. C. R. Kothari (1939–2019)

Publication Year: 2004

Book: *Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques*

C. R. Kothari provided a comprehensive explanation of research methods and techniques applicable to social science research. He emphasized the systematic nature of scientific inquiry and discussed the importance of research design, sampling, data collection, and data analysis. His work remains one of the most widely used references for doctoral scholars in India.

3. Ranjit Kumar (Born 1953)

Publication Year: 2019

Book: *Research Methodology: A Step-by-Step Guide for Beginners*

Ranjit Kumar focused on practical aspects of conducting research. He described the stages of research, from problem formulation to report writing. His work is particularly useful for doctoral candidates seeking guidance on developing research proposals, collecting data, and presenting findings systematically.

4. Earl Babbie (1938–2020)

Publication Year: 2016

Book: *The Practice of Social Research*

Earl Babbie explored scientific methods in social research and emphasized the importance of objectivity, reliability, and validity. He discussed various research strategies and highlighted

the role of ethical considerations in social science investigations. His work has significantly influenced doctoral research practices worldwide.

5. W. Lawrence Neuman (1948–2020)

Publication Year: 2014

Book: *Social Research Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*

Neuman examined both qualitative and quantitative research traditions and explained how researchers can integrate these approaches effectively. He stressed the importance of theoretical frameworks and methodological rigor in producing meaningful and reliable research outcomes.

6. Fred N. Kerlinger (1910–1991)

Publication Year: 1986

Book: *Foundations of Behavioral Research*

Kerlinger emphasized theory construction and hypothesis testing in social science research. His work contributed significantly to understanding research design and statistical analysis. He argued that scientific research should be systematic, objective, and theory-driven.

7. Louis Cohen (1927–2014), Lawrence Manion (1930–2016), and Keith Morrison (Born 1952)

Publication Year: 2018

Book: *Research Methods in Education*

These scholars collectively examined various research methods used in educational research. They discussed survey research, experimental methods, case studies, interviews, and observation techniques. Their work provides valuable guidance for doctoral researchers conducting studies in education and social sciences.

8. E. M. Phillips (1937–2015) and D. S. Pugh (Born 1937)

Publication Year: 2015

Book: *How to Get a PhD: A Handbook for Students and Their Supervisors*

Phillips and Pugh focused specifically on doctoral education and the challenges faced by Ph.D. candidates. They discussed supervision, thesis writing, time management, research planning, and viva voce preparation. Their work is considered one of the most important guides for doctoral scholars.

9. Gina Wisker (Born 1950)

Publication Year: 2012

Book: *The Good Supervisor: Supervising Postgraduate and Undergraduate Research for Doctoral Theses and Dissertations*

Wisker examined the relationship between supervisors and doctoral candidates. She emphasized the importance of mentorship, academic support, and constructive feedback in ensuring successful completion of doctoral research. Her work highlights the role of supervision in enhancing research quality.

10. Johann Mouton (Born 1956)

Publication Year: 2001

Book: *How to Succeed in Your Master's and Doctoral Studies*

Mouton discussed the principles of academic research and scholarly writing. He emphasized the importance of research planning, critical thinking, literature review, and ethical conduct. His work serves as a valuable resource for postgraduate and doctoral researchers.

11. Keith F. Punch (1946–2018)

Publication Year: 2013

Book: *Introduction to Social Research: Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches*

Punch focused on research planning and methodological decision-making. He argued that successful research depends upon clear objectives, appropriate methods, and systematic analysis. His work provides practical guidance for doctoral scholars in the social sciences.

12. John Best (1917–2004) and James V. Kahn (1934–2013)

Publication Year: 2006

Book: *Research in Education*

Best and Kahn emphasized scientific approaches to educational research. They discussed problem identification, hypothesis formulation, data collection, and statistical analysis. Their work remains a foundational text for educational researchers and doctoral students.

13. Robert K. Yin (Born 1941)

Publication Year: 2018

Book: *Case Study Research and Applications: Design and Methods*

Yin contributed significantly to the development of case study research methodology. He argued that case studies provide deep insights into complex social phenomena and are particularly useful for understanding real-life contexts. His work is frequently cited in doctoral dissertations within the social sciences.

14. Norman K. Denzin (1941–2023) and Yvonna S. Lincoln (Born 1944)

Publication Year: 2018

Book: *The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Research*

Denzin and Lincoln explored qualitative research paradigms, methodologies, and interpretive approaches. They emphasized the importance of understanding social realities through participant perspectives and contextual analysis. Their work has greatly influenced qualitative research in arts and social sciences.

15. David Silverman (Born 1943)

Publication Year: 2020

Book: *Qualitative Research*

Silverman focused on the application of qualitative methods in social science research. He highlighted the importance of interviews, observations, discourse analysis, and textual interpretation. His work provides practical and theoretical guidance for doctoral scholars conducting qualitative investigations.

Methodology

The present study entitled “Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science” is based on a descriptive and analytical research methodology. The purpose of the study is to examine and understand the academic, procedural, and research-related requirements that are necessary for the successful completion of a Doctor of Philosophy degree. Since the topic focuses on doctoral education, research standards, academic regulations, and scholarly practices, the study primarily relies on secondary sources of information. The methodology has been designed to ensure a systematic and comprehensive understanding of the doctoral research process and the various requirements associated with obtaining the degree.

The research adopts a qualitative approach because the study seeks to explore concepts, procedures, policies, and academic practices rather than measure numerical variables. Qualitative research is particularly suitable for examining educational processes and understanding the experiences, expectations, and requirements associated with doctoral studies. Through qualitative analysis, the study investigates the nature of doctoral education, the significance of research activities, and the institutional mechanisms that support the achievement of doctoral qualifications.

The study is descriptive in nature. Descriptive research aims to provide a detailed account of a particular phenomenon without manipulating variables or conducting experimental investigations. In the present study, the doctoral education system, research procedures, academic requirements, and evaluation processes have been described and analyzed in detail. The descriptive approach enables a clear understanding of the various stages involved in

fulfilling the requirements of a Ph.D. degree, including topic selection, literature review, research design, data collection, analysis, thesis writing, and viva voce examination.

Secondary data constitute the primary source of information for this research. Data have been collected from a wide range of academic and scholarly sources, including books, peer-reviewed journals, research articles, doctoral handbooks, university regulations, policy documents, conference proceedings, educational reports, and published dissertations. These sources provide valuable insights into the standards, expectations, and practices associated with doctoral education in the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science. The use of secondary data allows the researcher to examine existing knowledge and identify common themes related to doctoral studies.

The literature review formed an important component of the methodology. A systematic review of scholarly works was undertaken to understand previous research on doctoral education, research methodology, supervision, academic writing, and research ethics. Relevant books and articles written by recognized scholars in the field of research methodology and higher education were carefully examined. The literature review helped identify significant concepts, theoretical perspectives, and practical issues related to doctoral studies. It also enabled the researcher to establish a conceptual framework for analyzing the fulfilment of doctoral requirements.

The study employs a documentary analysis method for examining the collected information. Documentary analysis involves the systematic review and interpretation of written materials to gain understanding and develop empirical knowledge. University guidelines, doctoral regulations, academic policies, and research manuals were analyzed to identify the essential requirements for obtaining a Ph.D. degree. Particular attention was given to requirements related to admission procedures, coursework, research proposal approval, ethical clearance, thesis submission, publication requirements, and oral defense examinations. Through documentary analysis, the study provides a comprehensive overview of the doctoral research process.

The analytical component of the methodology involves the interpretation and evaluation of information gathered from various sources. The collected data were categorized into different thematic areas such as doctoral education, research design, supervision, ethical considerations, thesis preparation, and evaluation procedures. These themes were then analyzed to understand their significance within the doctoral process. The thematic approach facilitated a structured presentation of findings and enabled the identification of relationships between different aspects of doctoral education.

To ensure the reliability and credibility of the study, information was obtained from authoritative and academically recognized sources. Books written by established scholars, peer-reviewed journal articles, official university publications, and educational policy documents were given priority during data collection. Cross-referencing of information from multiple sources was undertaken to verify accuracy and consistency. This approach helped minimize errors and enhanced the trustworthiness of the findings.

Ethical considerations were also taken into account during the research process. Since the study is based entirely on secondary data, no human participants were directly involved. Nevertheless, academic integrity was maintained throughout the study by properly acknowledging all sources of information and avoiding plagiarism. The researcher ensured that ideas, theories, and findings from previous studies were accurately represented and appropriately cited. Ethical research practices contribute to the credibility and scholarly value of the study.

The scope of the methodology is limited to the examination of doctoral requirements within the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science. While the study draws upon general principles of doctoral education, its primary focus remains on the specific academic and research

requirements relevant to these disciplines. The findings may therefore be particularly useful for scholars, supervisors, and academic institutions associated with arts, humanities, and social science research.

One limitation of the methodology is that it relies exclusively on secondary data. The absence of primary data means that the study does not directly capture the experiences and perspectives of doctoral students, supervisors, or administrators. Future studies may incorporate interviews, surveys, or case studies to provide additional insights into the practical challenges and experiences associated with fulfilling doctoral requirements. However, despite this limitation, the extensive use of scholarly literature and official academic documents provides a strong foundation for understanding the doctoral process.

Research Gap

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree is widely recognized as the highest level of academic qualification, and numerous studies have explored various aspects of doctoral education, research methodology, supervision, and thesis preparation. Existing literature has significantly contributed to understanding the importance of doctoral research in knowledge creation and academic development. However, despite the extensive body of research available on doctoral studies, several important gaps remain, particularly concerning the comprehensive fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science.

One of the major gaps identified in the existing literature is the lack of integrated studies that examine the entire doctoral process as a unified academic journey. Most previous studies have focused on individual components such as research methodology, literature review, research supervision, thesis writing, or publication requirements. While these studies provide valuable insights into specific aspects of doctoral education, they rarely present a holistic understanding of how all these components collectively contribute to the successful fulfilment of Ph.D. degree requirements. As a result, scholars often find fragmented information rather than a comprehensive framework that explains the complete doctoral process.

Another significant research gap exists in the context of the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science. Much of the available literature on doctoral education has been developed from the perspectives of science, engineering, medicine, and technology disciplines, where research methodologies, laboratory practices, and publication standards differ considerably from those of the humanities and social sciences. Comparatively fewer studies have examined the unique academic expectations, research approaches, and evaluation standards applicable to doctoral scholars in arts and social science disciplines. This creates a need for research that specifically addresses the nature and requirements of doctoral education within these fields.

The literature also reveals limited discussion regarding the relationship between doctoral requirements and their broader impact on society. Existing studies primarily focus on academic achievement, research productivity, and institutional performance, while comparatively less attention has been given to the role of doctoral research in promoting cultural development, social transformation, educational improvement, and policy formulation. There is a need for studies that examine how fulfilling doctoral requirements contributes not only to individual academic success but also to national development and public welfare.

Furthermore, many previous studies emphasize the challenges faced by doctoral candidates, such as financial difficulties, supervision issues, time management, and research stress, but they provide limited analysis of strategies and institutional practices that facilitate successful completion of doctoral programs. There is insufficient literature exploring how effective research planning, ethical practices, academic support systems, and interdisciplinary collaboration can improve the overall quality of doctoral education and enhance research outcomes.

Another noticeable gap concerns the integration of research ethics, academic integrity, and quality assurance within doctoral education. Although these topics are discussed independently in many publications, few studies examine their combined role in fulfilling the requirements of a Ph.D. degree and ensuring the production of original, credible, and socially relevant research.

Importance of the Study

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree represents the highest level of academic achievement and is considered the foundation of advanced research and knowledge creation. The fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science is not only important for the academic growth of individual scholars but also for the intellectual, cultural, and social development of society. The present study is significant because it provides a comprehensive understanding of the various academic, methodological, and institutional requirements that are necessary for the successful completion of a doctoral degree. By examining these requirements systematically, the study contributes to the improvement of research quality, academic standards, and higher education practices.

One of the primary importance of this study lies in its contribution to doctoral scholars. Many students entering a Ph.D. program possess subject knowledge but have limited understanding of the complete research process and the expectations associated with doctoral education. This study provides a clear explanation of the stages involved in doctoral research, including topic selection, literature review, research design, data collection, analysis, thesis writing, publication requirements, and viva voce examination. Such knowledge enables scholars to plan their research effectively and complete their doctoral studies with greater confidence and academic competence.

The study is equally important for research supervisors and academic mentors. Effective supervision plays a crucial role in ensuring the quality and timely completion of doctoral research. By presenting a comprehensive overview of doctoral requirements, the study serves as a useful reference for supervisors in guiding research scholars through different stages of the research process. It emphasizes the importance of academic integrity, methodological rigor, critical thinking, and scholarly writing, thereby strengthening the overall quality of doctoral supervision and research outcomes.

Another important aspect of the study is its contribution to universities and higher educational institutions. Educational institutions continuously strive to improve the quality of research and maintain international academic standards. The findings of this study can assist universities in evaluating existing doctoral programs and identifying areas that require improvement. The study highlights the significance of structured research training, ethical guidelines, quality supervision, and effective evaluation mechanisms, which can contribute to the development of more efficient and transparent doctoral education systems.

The study also holds considerable significance for policymakers and educational administrators. Doctoral research is an essential component of national knowledge production and innovation. Governments and educational authorities rely on research findings to formulate policies related to education, culture, governance, social welfare, and economic development. By emphasizing the importance of fulfilling doctoral requirements, the study encourages the adoption of policies that promote high-quality research, strengthen research infrastructure, and provide adequate support to doctoral scholars. Such initiatives ultimately contribute to the advancement of higher education and national development.

Within the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science, the study has special importance because these disciplines focus on understanding human society, culture, history, language, education, economics, politics, and social institutions. Research conducted in these areas provides valuable insights into social problems and contributes to the development of practical solutions.

The present study demonstrates how fulfilling doctoral requirements ensures the production of

reliable, ethical, and academically rigorous research that can influence public policy, educational reforms, cultural preservation, and community development. Consequently, the study reinforces the role of doctoral education in promoting social progress and sustainable development.

The study further contributes to the promotion of research ethics and academic integrity. Ethical conduct is a fundamental requirement of doctoral research, and maintaining honesty, originality, transparency, and accountability is essential for preserving the credibility of academic scholarship. By highlighting the importance of ethical research practices, proper citation, avoidance of plagiarism, and responsible data management, the study encourages scholars to uphold the highest standards of academic excellence. This not only improves the quality of individual research projects but also strengthens public trust in academic institutions and research findings.

Another significant contribution of the study is its emphasis on interdisciplinary research and innovation. Contemporary social challenges such as inequality, climate change, cultural transformation, educational reform, and technological advancement cannot be addressed through a single discipline alone. Doctoral research in the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science increasingly requires collaboration across multiple fields of knowledge. The study encourages scholars to adopt interdisciplinary perspectives, integrate diverse methodologies, and engage in collaborative research that generates comprehensive and innovative solutions to complex societal issues.

The study is also important from the perspective of future researchers. It provides a consolidated understanding of doctoral requirements and identifies key components that contribute to successful research outcomes. Future scholars can use this study as a reference for designing research proposals, selecting appropriate methodologies, understanding academic expectations, and improving the quality of their dissertations. The identification of research gaps within the existing literature also creates opportunities for further investigations into doctoral education and research practices.

Furthermore, the study contributes to the enhancement of research culture within higher education institutions. A strong research culture encourages originality, critical inquiry, intellectual curiosity, and evidence-based decision-making. By emphasizing the importance of fulfilling doctoral requirements through systematic planning, methodological competence, and scholarly discipline, the study promotes an academic environment that values excellence and innovation. Such a culture is essential for producing competent researchers who can contribute effectively to teaching, policy development, and societal advancement.

Finally, the significance of this study extends beyond academic institutions to society as a whole. Doctoral research in the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science addresses issues that directly affect individuals and communities, including education, social justice, governance, cultural identity, communication, and human development. The knowledge generated through high-quality doctoral research supports informed decision-making, improves public policies, preserves cultural heritage, and contributes to sustainable social progress. Therefore, ensuring the proper fulfilment of doctoral requirements is essential not only for awarding an academic degree but also for producing meaningful research that benefits society at local, national, and global levels.

Conclusion

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree represents the highest level of academic and research achievement and serves as a symbol of intellectual excellence, independent inquiry, and scholarly contribution. The fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science is a comprehensive and systematic process that demands dedication, critical thinking, methodological competence, and adherence to ethical principles. Throughout the research journey, scholars are expected to demonstrate

their ability to identify significant research problems, review existing literature critically, adopt appropriate research methodologies, analyze data effectively, and present original findings that contribute meaningfully to the advancement of knowledge. The successful completion of these requirements reflects not only academic accomplishment but also the capacity to address complex social, cultural, educational, and developmental issues through scientific investigation.

The present study has explored the various dimensions of doctoral education and emphasized the importance of fulfilling all academic and institutional requirements associated with the Ph.D. degree. It has highlighted that doctoral research is fundamentally different from other levels of higher education because it focuses on the creation of new knowledge rather than the acquisition of existing information. The originality of research, supported by systematic inquiry and critical analysis, remains the defining characteristic of doctoral studies. Therefore, the fulfilment of doctoral requirements is essential for maintaining the quality, credibility, and international recognition of higher education and research institutions.

One of the major conclusions of this study is that the doctoral research process is built upon a strong foundation of planning, organization, and academic discipline. The identification of a relevant research problem, formulation of clear objectives, and development of a sound theoretical framework are crucial initial steps that determine the direction and success of the research. A comprehensive review of literature enables scholars to understand previous research contributions, identify research gaps, and establish the significance of their own studies. This process not only strengthens the conceptual foundation of the research but also ensures that the investigation contributes something new and valuable to the existing body of knowledge.

The study further concludes that research methodology plays a central role in the successful completion of doctoral studies. The selection of appropriate qualitative, quantitative, or mixed research methods directly influences the reliability and validity of research findings. Scholars must possess a thorough understanding of research design, sampling techniques, data collection procedures, and analytical tools to produce scientifically sound and academically acceptable research outcomes. Methodological rigor enhances the credibility of the study and ensures that conclusions are supported by systematic evidence rather than personal opinion or assumptions. Another important conclusion emerging from the study is the indispensable role of research ethics and academic integrity in doctoral education. Ethical research practices, including honesty, transparency, originality, confidentiality, and proper acknowledgment of sources, are essential for maintaining the credibility of scholarly work. The increasing emphasis on plagiarism prevention, ethical approval procedures, and responsible research conduct reflects the growing recognition that academic excellence cannot be separated from ethical responsibility. A doctoral degree is therefore not only a measure of intellectual ability but also a reflection of a scholar's commitment to integrity and professional standards.

The study also demonstrates that effective research supervision and institutional support significantly influence the successful fulfilment of doctoral requirements. Guidance provided by experienced supervisors enables scholars to refine research ideas, improve methodological approaches, overcome academic challenges, and maintain research quality throughout the doctoral journey. Similarly, universities play an important role by providing research infrastructure, library resources, training programs, financial assistance, and opportunities for academic interaction. A supportive research environment encourages innovation, enhances productivity, and contributes to the timely completion of doctoral studies.

Within the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science, doctoral research possesses particular significance because it addresses issues that directly affect individuals, communities, and societies. Research conducted in disciplines such as education, sociology, history, economics, political science, language studies, psychology, philosophy, geography, and cultural studies

contributes to a deeper understanding of human behavior and social institutions. The findings generated through doctoral research provide valuable insights for policymakers, educators, administrators, and community leaders, enabling them to develop evidence-based strategies for addressing social challenges and promoting sustainable development. Thus, the fulfilment of doctoral requirements has implications that extend far beyond academic institutions and contribute directly to societal progress.

The review of literature undertaken in this study revealed that numerous scholars have emphasized the importance of research methodology, supervision, academic writing, and ethical conduct in doctoral education. However, the existing literature often focuses on individual components of the doctoral process rather than presenting a comprehensive understanding of all requirements necessary for obtaining the Ph.D. degree. This study has attempted to bridge that gap by integrating different aspects of doctoral education into a unified framework and demonstrating how each component contributes to the overall quality and success of doctoral research.

The research gap identified in the study further indicates the need for greater attention to doctoral education within the Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science. Compared to science and technology disciplines, relatively fewer studies have examined the unique research processes, methodological approaches, and academic expectations associated with humanities and social science research. The present study contributes to addressing this deficiency by providing a systematic overview of doctoral requirements and highlighting their significance in promoting academic excellence and knowledge creation.

Another important conclusion is that the quality of doctoral education directly influences the quality of higher education and research systems. Universities that maintain rigorous doctoral standards produce competent researchers, innovative educators, and effective policymakers capable of addressing contemporary social and cultural challenges. Strengthening doctoral programs through improved supervision, enhanced research training, ethical awareness, and interdisciplinary collaboration will contribute to the development of stronger academic institutions and more impactful research outcomes. Investment in doctoral education is therefore an investment in the intellectual and social development of a nation.

The study also recognizes that doctoral scholars often face numerous challenges, including financial limitations, time constraints, research complexity, publication requirements, and balancing personal and professional responsibilities. Despite these difficulties, successful completion of doctoral studies demonstrates perseverance, intellectual maturity, and commitment to lifelong learning. Institutions should continue to strengthen support mechanisms such as research funding, academic counseling, digital resources, and collaborative research opportunities to facilitate the successful fulfilment of doctoral requirements and improve the overall research experience.

In the context of rapidly changing global societies, doctoral education is becoming increasingly interdisciplinary and internationally connected. Researchers are expected to engage with diverse perspectives, utilize advanced research technologies, and collaborate across disciplinary boundaries to address complex global issues. The Faculty of Arts, Crafts and Social Science has a critical role to play in generating knowledge related to culture, education, governance, communication, social justice, sustainability, and human development. By maintaining high standards in doctoral education and ensuring the fulfilment of all academic requirements, universities can produce scholars who are capable of making significant contributions at both national and international levels.

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