



POKHARA UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Admission Notice

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Development Studies

(Date of Application Announcement: 16 July 2025)

The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Pokhara University is pleased to announce the admission open for the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Development Studies and invites eligible applicants from all across the globe. The program seeks candidates with strong academic backgrounds, who are highly motivated and have curiosity and desire for intellectual excellence.

About the Program: The PhD in Development Studies aims to produce expert and specialized high-level human resources for teaching, research and professional expert services. The program comprises of 24 credits of extensive coursework (Philosophy, Research Methodology, Academic Writing and Seminar Skills, Core Courses, Elective Courses, Independent Study) structured in two semesters. After successfully completing the coursework, the scholar can opt for either 9 credits dissertation and pursue an MPhil degree or 36 credits dissertation for PhD degree. The normal duration of the PhD program is 3 years with a total of 60 credits.

Eligibility: A master degree in any field from Pokhara University or any other recognized university along with the following specific qualifications:

- [i] Two years of work experience for those who have passed Master Level with 3.00/4.00 CGPA or high Second Division (55%);
- [ii] One year of work experience for those who have passed Master Level with 3.30/4.00 CGPA or First Division;
- [iii] There will be no requirement of working experience for those who have passed Master Level with 3.75/4.00 CGPA or Distinction Division.
- [iv] A student must score a minimum CGPA of 3.3 in the coursework and must have successfully defended PhD proposal for registration to PhD.
- [v] If a student is unable to complete the doctoral proposal within the given duration or cannot secure a minimum CGPA 3.3 in the coursework, the completed credits of coursework can be transferred to an MPhil degree. The student can register 9 credits dissertation and pursue an MPhil degree.

Admission Process: Admission to the PhD in Development Studies program will be on merit basis based on total score (200) obtained from:

- [i] Entrance test (100): Entrance test will be based on MCQ comprising of modules - Quantitative ability (20), Logical reasoning (20), English proficiency (20), Conceptual knowledge of Development Studies (20), and Research aptitude (20)
- [ii] Interview (30)
- [iii] Statement of purpose (5) and Research synopsis (10)
- [iv] Academic achievement (40)
- [v] Research publication (10) and work experience (5)

Key Dates:

- Last Date for application form submission: 24 August 2025
- Entrance Examination: 29 August 2025 (8:00AM – 11:00AM), Venue: Academic Complex, Pokhara University
- Personal Interview: 29 August 2025 (1:00PM onwards), Venue: Academic Complex, Pokhara University
- Publication of Final Result: 31 August 2025
- Period of Admission: 1-7 September 2025
- Program Orientation: 14 September 2025
- Class Start: 15 September 2022

Documents to be Submitted:

- [i] Duly completed application form and bank voucher of Rs. 5,000.
- [ii] Bank: Kamana Sewa Bikas Bank Ltd
Account Name: Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Pokhara University
Account No: 01700300211470000001
- [iii] Self-attested copies of academic certificates (marksheets/transcripts, character certificates).
- [iv] Statement of Purpose (SOP) of not more than one page focusing on motivation for PhD study and career objective, Research synopsis within 2,000 to 3,000 words (in prescribed format).
- [v] Curriculum Vitae (CV), Letters of recommendation from two referees, No objection letter from current employer

Number of Seats: The number of seats for the PhD program is 10 seats.

Note: Application form, information brochure, check-list for document submission, and formats for statement of purpose, research synopsis, portfolio of work experience, recommendation letters, and no objection certificate can be downloaded from <https://pu.edu.np/academics/faculties/fhss/> or obtained from the Office of the Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Pokhara University.

For Online Application:

- Application for Admission to PhD in Development Studies Program can be submitted online at <https://forms.gle/rfaAfKc6vqYmmStK8>
- The letter of recommendation should be submitted in the given format by the referee himself/herself at phd.fhss@pu.edu.np
- The print copies of letters of recommendation with seal should be submitted at the office of the Dean before the entrance test. Each recommendation form must be completed and signed by the referee himself/herself otherwise, the recommendation will not be considered.

For further details

Office of the Dean

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Pokhara University

Pokhara -30, Kaski, Nepal

Email: phd.fhss@pu.edu.np

Member Secretary, Faculty Doctoral Committee (9856021122)

Admission Staff (061-504078)

<https://pu.edu.np/academics/faculties/fhss>