

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS FOR PHARM.D. PROGRAMME UNDER FACULTY OF PHARMACY

DEFINITIONS

PROGRAMME	--	Pharm. D. (Doctor of Pharmacy)
COURSE	--	One of the constituent subjects of the Programme
TERM	--	An academic year. The words “Term” and “Academic Year” are generally used synonymously.
REGISTRATION	--	Procedure for registering the course in the academic year.
LETTER GRADE	--	A letter associated with a particular performance level of the student. A qualitative meaning and a numerical index are attached to each grade. O to D is Passing grades, F and Abs – Fail
CREDIT	--	A numerical figure associated with a course. On passing the course, the student earns this “credit”
GRANTING A YEAR--		This expression is used to indicate whether the in-academic year performance of the student is up to acceptable standards. GT – Term granted, NT – Term not granted

SHORT FORMS

The Institute	-	The Institute of Pharmacy
The Director	-	The Director, Institute of Pharmacy
Faculty	-	Faculty of Pharmacy
The Dean	-	The Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy
HoD	-	Head of concerned Department
IR	-	Initial Registration
RS	-	Repeat Registration for Studying all components of a course
RRE	-	Repeat Examination Registration
LPW	-	Laboratory/Project work
SE	-	Sessional Examination
YEE	-	Year End Examination
SPE	-	Supplementary Examination
R.Pharm.D.	-	Regulation for Pharm.D. programme

R. PHARM.D.1. PROGRAMME

This is a six-year full time Doctor of Pharmacy Programme, leading to the degree of Pharm.D., offered by Institute of Pharmacy under Faculty of Pharmacy, Nirma University.

1.1 Duration of the programme:

The course of study for Pharm.D. shall extend over a period of six academic years (five years of study and one year of internship or residency) full time with each academic year spread over a period of not less than 200 working days. The period of six years duration is divided into two phases;

Phase I - Consisting of First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth academic year.

Phase II - Consisting of internship or residency training during sixth year involving posting in speciality units. It is a phase of training wherein a student is exposed to actual pharmacy practice or clinical pharmacy services and acquires skill under supervision so that he or she may become capable of functioning independently.

1.2 Medium of instruction and examination shall be in English.

1.3 Working days in each academic year

Each year shall consist of not less than 200 working days. Each academic year shall be conducted from the month of June/July to November/December.

R.PHARM.D.2. ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION

The eligibility criteria for admission to the programme are given in **Annexure - 1**.

R.PHARM.D.3. CATEGORIES OF COURSES

The following categories of courses are offered in the programme.

3.1 Core Courses:

The courses to be compulsorily studied by the students as a core requirement to complete the academic requirement of the programme as described by Pharmacy Council of India. Credits earned for these courses will be as per rules of Nirma University/ considered for evaluating the academic performance levels of the student.

3.2 Value Added Courses:

They are offered to the students to provide an additional exposure to certain skills/knowledge. This is a Non-credit course. The Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy is empowered to decide these courses, their curriculum, teaching and examination schemes, passing standards, etc. in accordance with the value added course policy approved by the academic council.

3.3 Audit Courses:

These are optional courses. Audit courses are not evaluated for the purpose of assessing the academic performance of the students and no grade will be awarded for these courses. However, the student is required to pass the course.

3.4 Elective Courses:

Elective course is a course which can be chosen

- (a) From the pool of courses offered by the Institute.
- (b) From the pool of courses supporting to the discipline of study optional courses as prescribed by Pharmacy Council of India.
- (c) From the pool of courses supporting to enabling exposure to some other discipline and domain offered by the different constituent Institutes of the University.

From the pool of courses nurturing student's proficiency and skills offered by the institute from time to time

R.PHARM.D.4. COMPONENTS OF A COURSE

The academic schedule of the courses may consist of one or more of the following components with their respective scope as described:

4.1 Components of courses

The academic schedule of the courses may consist of one or more of the following components with their respective scope as described.

4.1.1 Lecture:

Teaching learning sessions conducted through real and virtual classrooms with various multimedia aids and other forms of students learning engagements as per requirement of the course and approved by the Dean.

4.1.2 Tutorials:

Supplementary to classroom teaching and as per Nirma University Tutorial Policy and as amended from time to time in accordance with PCI regulations.

4.1.3 Practical Work (LPW):

Supplementary to classroom teaching and professional preparation as per Practical Work Policy of the Institute and as amended from time to time.

4.1.4 Hospital Posting:

Every student shall be posted in constituent hospital for a period of not less than fifty hours to be covered in not less than 200 working days in each of second, third- & fourth-year course. Each student shall submit report duly certified by the preceptor and duly attested by the Head of the Department or Institution as prescribed. In the fifth year, every student shall spend half a day in the morning hours attending ward rounds on daily basis as a part of clerkship. Theory teaching may be scheduled in the afternoon.

4.1.5 Internship:

Internship is a phase of training wherein a student is expected to conduct actual practice of pharmacy and health care and acquires skills under the supervision so that he or she may become capable of functioning independently.

4.1.6 Project work:

- (1) To allow the student to develop data collection and reporting skills in the area of community, hospital and clinical pharmacy, a project work shall be carried out under the supervision of a teacher. The project topic must be approved by the Head of the Department or Head of the Institution. The same shall be announced to students within one month of commencement of the fifth-year classes. Project work shall be presented in a written report and as a seminar at the end of the year. External and the internal examiners shall do the assessment of the project work.
- (2) Project work shall comprise of objectives of the work, methodology, results, discussions and conclusions.
Details of objectives and methodology are given in annexure-II.

4.2 Credit assignment

In the Credit Based System, certain quantum of academic work viz. theory classes, tutorial hours, practical classes, internship, etc. are measured in terms of credits. On satisfactory completion of the courses, a candidate earns credits. The amount of credit associated with a course is dependent upon the number of hours of instruction per week in that course. Similarly, the credit associated with any of the other academic, co/extra-curricular activities is dependent upon the quantum of work expected to be put in for each of these activities per week.

4.2.1 Core courses

Core courses consist of lecture (L) and /or tutorial (T) hours, Practical (P), Hospital posting and Internship. Credits (C) for a course is dependent on the number of hours of instruction per week in that course, and is obtained by using a multiplier of one (1) for lecture and tutorial hours, and a multiplier of half (1/2) for practical (laboratory) hours. Thus, for example, a theory course having three lectures and one tutorial per week throughout the academic year carries a credit of 8. Similarly, a practical having four laboratory hours per week throughout the academic year carries a credit of 4.

4.2.2 Minimum credit requirements

The minimum credit points required for award of a Pharm.D. degree is 354. These credits are divided into different components of courses like, Theory, Tutorials, Practical, Hospital posting, Internship over the duration of six year. The credits are distributed academic year-wise as shown as under:

Academic Year wise credits distribution:

Academic Year	Credit Points
I	56/64\$/68#
II	58
III	62
IV	58
V	40
VI	80

Total credit points for the programme	354/ 362\$ / 366#
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\$ Applicable ONLY for the students studied Physics / Chemistry / Botany / Zoology at HSC and appearing for Remedial Mathematics course.

Applicable ONLY for the students studied Mathematics / Physics / Chemistry at HSC and appearing for Remedial Biology course.

Courses generally progress in sequences, building competencies and their positioning indicates certain academic maturity on the part of the learners. Learners are expected to follow the academic year-wise schedule of courses given in the syllabus.

4.3 Academic work

A regular record of attendance both in Theory and Practical shall be maintained by the teaching staff of respective courses.

4.4 Course of study

The course of study for Pharm.D. shall include Year Wise Theory, Practical, Tutorial, Hospital posting, Internship as approved by Academic Council from time to time.

R.PHARM.D.5. EXAMINATIONS

For assessment of the core course, each component corresponds to certain examination/s. These examinations are as follows.

CORE COURSES--	Year End Examination of Theory, Practical, Hospital posting, Internship
	Internal Assessment (includes sessional exams) of Theory, Practicals, Hospital posting, Internship

R.PHARM.D.6. COURSE COORDINATOR & FACULTY ADVISOR

The Dean will appoint faculty members for the following designations. The main functions of each designation are also mentioned.

COURSE COORDINATOR (to be appointed for each course) – to coordinate all matters related to the conduct and assessment of a course.

FACULTY ADVISOR (to be appointed for each year) – to look after all matters, at the department level, regarding Registrations and Re-registrations of courses and also to provide guidance and counseling to students regarding these issues.

R.PHARM.D.7. TEACHING AND EXAMINATION SCHEME

The Academic Council shall approve the teaching and examination scheme, syllabus and all relevant academic matters including modifications, addition, deletion etc., on the recommendation of Faculty of Pharmacy.

R.PHARM.D. 8. TERM

Normally courses will be offered year-wise as given in the teaching scheme.

SUMMER SESSION refers to the academic session scheduled in the summer vacation for supplementary/remedial teaching and examinations. Normally, selected courses of only the first two semesters will be offered in the Summer Session.

R.PHARM.D.9. REGISTRATION IN COURSES

9.1 There will be three categories of Registrations. All three categories will be collectively referred to simply as Registration. Individual categories will be referred to by their symbols.

CATEGORIES OF REGISTRATION

The Three categories of Registration are:

IR - Initial Registration

RS - Repeat Registration for studying all components of a course

RRE - Re-examination Registration for all component of a course

9.2 All Registrations, wherever applicable, will be subject to availability of courses.

9.3 Registration will be done course-wise.

9.4 Initial Registration (IR) -

In order to study a course for the first time, the student will register under the IR category. This will imply regular attendance for study of all components of that course and appearing at all examinations thereof.

IR registrations for courses of a semester are to be done for all courses of that Semester as shown in the Teaching Scheme; IR registration will not be permitted for a lesser number of courses. The student who so registers (IR) for all courses of a semester will be considered as having been registered in that semester.

New entrants admitted to the programme on the basis of HSCE or equivalent will register (IR) for the first semester.

Diploma students admitted to the Degree programme will register (IR) for the semester as notified by Nirma University.

9.5 Repeat Registration for studying all components of a course (RS) -

The student whose Term is not granted, due to shortfall in attendance or disciplinary issues, for any registered course will repeat the study of all components of a course. The student will seek fresh registration for this purpose.

This category will imply regular attendance to study all components (i.e. LECT, PRACT, Hospital posting, Internship as applicable) and appearing at all examinations thereof.

9.6 Re-examination Registration for all component of a course (RRE)-

This registration is necessary for appearing YEE again in all (theory, practical, hospital posting, internship) components of a course. It will not involve regular teaching for studying that course.

9.7 Approval of Registration

Every student must apply in the prescribed form for registrations, as applicable. The decision on the student's request will be based on the availability of courses and applicable Regulations. The Director/HOI will issue appropriate orders for processing the application, including scrutiny, verification and final orders.

9.8 Simultaneous Registration and Re-registration

- (a) All re-registrations as applicable must be done before any registration.
- (b) Partial registration in the scheduled courses of a year is not permitted.
- (c) A student will be permitted to register for higher semester after meeting requirements as per R.PHARM.D.15.

R. PHARM.D.10 GRADING OF PERFORMANCES

10.1 Letter grades and grade points allocations:

Based on the performances, each student shall be awarded a final letter grade at the end of the academic year for each course. The letter grades and their corresponding grade points are given as under:

Letter grades and grade points equivalent to percentage of marks and performances:

Percentage of marks Obtained	Letter Grade	Grade Point	Performance
90.00 – 100	O	10	Outstanding
80.00 – 89.99	A	9	Excellent
70.00 – 79.99	B	8	Good
60.00 – 69.99	C	7	Fair
50.00 – 59.99	D	6	Average
Less than 50	F	0	Fail
Absent	Abs	0	Fail

R. PHARM.D. 11. SCOPE OF EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT

In order to pass a course, the students will have to pass all examinations of theory and practical of that course. The scope of the examinations and the method of assessment will be as follows:

11.1 Examiners

All Sessional/Continuous assessments will be carried out by the faculty concerned. All other assessments / examinations will be carried out by a panel of at least two examiners. The extent of associating external experts with the examination, selection and appointment of all

examiners will be decided by the Dean in consultation with a committee appointed for this purpose.

In all mark-based assessment, the overall percentage marks, if fractional, will be rounded off to the next higher integer value.

11.2 Sessional/ Internal Assessment (IR, RS registration)

All exercises in Sessional/Internal Assessment will be continuously assessed during the year and given marks.

Oral examination may be included in the Sessional/ Internal assessment at all possible stages.

11.3 The year wise assessment will be carried out based on the schemes for Sessional/Internal Assessments and Year End Examinations as approved by the Academic Council, from time to time.

11.4 Year End Examination (YEE)

The expression “Year End Examination” refers to the Written, Practical and/or Oral examination of a respective course taken at the end of an academic year. This will cover the entire syllabus of a particular course.

11.5 Supplementary Examination (SPE) (RRE registration, grade F or Abs in YEE)

The Institute may decide to hold Supplementary Examination after YEE for the students who have obtained grade F or Abs in YEE. Such students will have to seek RRE registration.

11.6 Schedule of YEE and SPE

YEEs of all courses of the programme, as per the teaching scheme, will be held at the end of academic years. The Year End Supplementary Examinations (SPE), if held, will be for only those courses that are offered in the semesters of that term.

11.7 Absence in any examination will be treated as absent (Abs) and no marks will be given.

R.PHARM.D. 12. ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENT FOR APPEARANCE AT SEMESTER END EXAMINATION

A student has to comply with the following condition course wise to be eligible to admit for Examination:

12.1 Compliance of attendance

Students under category of (IR, RS) should have at least 85% attendance, including Academic Leave in all teaching components of the course (as applicable).

Note: In the case of long duration training or project work, where final examination is not possible before the academic year ends, a certificate by the course coordinator that the student’s progress is satisfactory will be acceptable.

12.2 The student who has not completed the minimum requirement of attendance may appeal to the Appeal Committee (consisting of Director/Dean, and Two Senior Faculty Members nominated by Director) giving full reasons for his/her default. The decision of the Appeal Committee in all such cases will be final.

12.3 If the committee rejects the appeal of the student, then the student will not be permitted to appear in SEE of the concerned course. Accordingly, S/he will also be given grade F in that course and S/he will have to seek RS category registration.

R.PHARM.D.13. GRADES IN EXAMINATIONS

Letter grades and grade points in each course equivalent to percentage of marks obtained:

Percentage of marks Obtained	Letter Grade	Grade Point
90.00 – 100	O	10
80.00 – 89.99	A	9
70.00 – 79.99	B	8
60.00 – 69.99	C	7
50.00 – 59.99	D	6
Less than 50	F	0
Absent	Abs	0

R.PHARM.D.14. INTERPRETATION OF GRADES

The interpretation of Grade and Grade point of individual course with its performance are as follows:

Letter grade 'O' and grade point – 10 is equivalent to Outstanding performances.

Letter grade 'A' and grade point – 9 is equivalent to Excellent performances.

Letter grade 'B' and grade point – 8 is equivalent to Good performances.

Letter grade 'C' and grade point – 7 is equivalent to Fair performances.

Letter grade 'D' and grade point – 6 is equivalent to Average performances.

Letter grade 'F' and grade point – 0 is equivalent to Fail performances.

Letter grade 'Abs' and grade point – 0 is equivalent to Fail performances.

R.PHARM.D. 15. PASSING STANDARDS

15.1 A student shall be declared PASS and eligible for getting grade in a course of Pharm D. if he or she secures at least 50% marks in that Subjects (course) separately in the theory examinations, including sessional marks and at least 50% marks in each of the practical examinations including sessional marks.

15.2 Academic Progression: Eligibility for promotion to next year.

All students who have appeared for all the subjects and passed the first-year annual examination are eligible for promotion to the second year and so on. However, failure in more than two subjects (Course: RS and RRE) shall debar him or her from promotion to the next year classes.

15.3 A student shall be eligible to get his/her CGPA upon successful completion of the courses of I to VI years within the stipulated time period as per the norms specified in **R. PHARM.D.17.**

Note: Grade Abs should be considered as failed and treated as one head for deciding academic progression. Such rules are also applicable for those students who fail to register for examination(s) of any course in any academic year.

R.PHARM.D.16. PERFORMANCE LEVELS

16.1 Indices

The performance level of the student in credit courses at different stages of his/her study is given by the following indices. All index values will be rounded off to the second place of decimal.

AGPA -- Annual Grade Point Average

PGPA -- Progressive Grade Point Average

CGPA -- Cumulative Grade Point Average

AGPA - This grade point average is calculated when the student passes all the courses of the year and it refers to the progress of the student in a year.

PGPA - This grade point average is calculated at the end of any year upto the stage under consideration and it refers to the progress of the student.

CGPA - This grade point average refers to the entire programme. It is calculated when the student passes the programme. The method of calculation is the same as for AGPA or PGPA but the summation is for the courses of all years of the programme.

16.2 Class and percentage:

The students securing 60% marks or above in aggregate in all subjects in a single attempt at the Pharm.D. course examination shall be declared to have passed in first class. Students securing 75% marks or above in any subject or subjects shall be declared to have passed with distinction in the subject or those subjects provided he or she passes in all the subjects in a single attempt.

The class shall be awarded on the basis of CGPA as follows:

Distinction = CGPA of 8.00 and above

First Class = CGPA of 6.50 to 7.99

Second Class = CGPA of 6 to 6.49

In case an equivalence between CGPA values and Class / % marks is desired, the same can be obtained as given below:

Percentage marks (%) = (CGPA – 0.5) * 10

R.PHARM.D.17. CANCELLATION OF ADMISSION

The admission of following categories of students shall liable to be cancelled:

- (i) Failure to the academic requirement for the award of Pharm.D. degree within 8 years from the date of administration.

- (ii) The student whose admission is so cancelled can appeal to the Appeal Committee. The Committee may grant an extension upto one additional year for the deserving case.

Notwithstanding anything contained above, if a student has cleared all the courses and have earned the requisite number of credits except one course, may appeal to the President. The President may consider such appeal on the recommendation of the appeal committee prescribed under the regulations for the purpose and after considering the genuineness of the case may give ONE more additional attempt to the student concerned to clear the remaining course

R.PHARM.D.18. SUMMER COURSES AND EXAMINATIONS

Dean is authorized to decide to offer summer courses and examinations.

R.PHARM.D.19: AWARD OF DEGREE

To qualify for the award of Pharm.D. degree a student requires:

- a) PGPA 6.0
- b) successfully complete the prescribed credits of the programme as specified in the Teaching and Examination Scheme
- c) successfully complete Value-added courses(s) as notified by the Dean in the Teaching and Examination Scheme with a minimum passing grade, failing to which, s/he is required to improve the Value-added courses(s) grade in the scheme as prescribed by the Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy.

Annexure – 1
[Refer: R. PHARM.D.2]

Minimum qualification for admission to Pharm.D. Course under Nirma University

A pass in any of the following examinations -

(1) 10+2 examination with Physics and Chemistry as compulsory subjects along with one of the following subjects:

Mathematics or Biology.

(2) A pass in D.Pharm. course from an institution approved by the Pharmacy Council of India under section 12 of the Pharmacy Act.

(3) Any other qualification approved by the Pharmacy Council of India as equivalent to any of the above examinations.

Provided that a student should complete the age of 17 years on or before 31st December of the year of admission to the course.

Determination of merits of the admission:

The admission to both the above categories (1), (2) and (3) shall be given on merit by adopting the methods as prescribed by Pharmacy Council of India/ Govt. of Gujarat from time to time.

Annexure – II
[Refer: R. PHARM.D.4.1.6]

Project work:

Objectives of project work: The main objectives of the project work is to,

- (i) show the evidence of having made accurate description of published work of others and of having recorded the findings in an impartial manner; and
- (ii) develop the students in data collection, analysis and reporting and interpretation skills.

Methodology: To complete the project work following methodology shall be adopted, namely:

- (i) students shall work in groups of not less than two and not more than four under an authorized teacher;
- (ii) project topic shall be approved by the Head of the Department or Head of the Institution;
- (iii) project work chosen shall be related to the pharmacy practice in community, hospital and clinical setup. It shall be patient and treatment (Medicine) oriented, like drug utilization reviews, pharmacoepidemiology, pharmacovigilance or pharmacoconomics;
- (iv) project work shall be approved by the institutional ethics committee;
- (v) student shall present at least three seminars, one in the beginning, one at middle and one at the end of the project work; and
- (vi) two-page write-up of the project indicating title, objectives, methodology anticipated benefits and references shall be submitted to the Head of the Department or Head of the Institution.

Reporting:

- (i) Student working on the project shall submit jointly to the Head of the Department or Head of the Institution a project report of about 40-50 pages. Project report should include a certificate issued by the authorized teacher, Head of the Department as well as by the Head of the Institution
- (ii) Project report shall be computer typed in double space using Times Roman font on A4 paper. The title shall be in bold with font size 18, sub-titles in bold with font size 14 and the text with font size 12. The cover page of the project report shall contain details about the name of the student and the name of the authorized teacher with font size 14.
- (iii) Submission of the project report shall be done at least one month prior to the commencement of annual or supplementary examination.

Evaluation: The following methodology shall be adopted for evaluating the project work

- (i) Project work shall be evaluated by internal and external examiners.
- (ii) Students shall be evaluated in groups for four hours (i.e., about half an hour for a group of four students).
- (iii) Three seminars presented by students shall be evaluated for twenty marks each and the average of best two shall be forwarded to the university with marks of other subjects.

(iv) Evaluation shall be done on the following items: Marks

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| a) Write up of the seminar | (7.5) |
| b) Presentation of work | (7.5) |
| c) Communication skills | (7.5) |
| d) Question and answer skills | (7.5) |

Total (30 marks)

(v) **Final evaluation of project work shall be done on the following items:** Marks

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| a) Write up of the seminar | (17.5) |
| b) Presentation of work | (17.5) |
| c) Communication skills | (17.5) |
| d) Question and answer skills | (17.5) |

Total (70 marks)

Explanation:

For the purposes of differentiation in the evaluation in case of topic being the same for the group of students, the same shall be done based on item numbers b, c and d mentioned above.
