

Guidelines and list of supervisors for M.A. (Geography) dissertation work Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani

During the course of study, all the learners (M.A. Geography IV Semester, January 2026) have to do compulsory short-term research and submit a dissertation for partial fulfillment of the requirement of the M.A. degree. University offers number of themes for M.A. dissertation from which a learner can select a research topic under the guidance of allotted supervisor. Different themes for M.A. research are proposed by the concerned department which are as follows:

- Climate Change and Impact
- Disaster
- Man and Animal Conflict in Uttarakhand
- Land Use and Land Cover Change
- Watershed Management
- Environment and Natural Resource Management
- Tourism and Livelihood
- Population and Migration
- Sustainable Development
- Women Role of Development in Uttarakhand
- Role of GIS and Remote Sensing in Geography
- Agriculture in Uttarakhand

Procedure for allotment of supervisors:

Learners can contact the supervisors allotted by the University for the Successful Completion of dissertation work (list attached).

- **Topic selection criteria:** Topic should be related to assigned themes of the dissertation work.
- **Synopsis must contain:** Synopsis should be of 3-5 pages. The standard font should be Times New Roman of 12 pts with 1.5-line spacing. Synopsis must be signed by learner and supervisors.

After finalizing the topic, the learners have to submit soft copy of synopsis, approved and duly signed by the supervisor to the mail id: doge@uou.ac.in in within 15 days after publishing the guidelines in the university website.

**Note: After completion of the dissertation work, learners have to submit the hard copy of dissertation (approved and duly signed by the supervisor) by post in favour of “Co-coordinator, Department of Geography, Uttarakhand Open University, behind Transport Nagar, Teenpani Bypass Road, Haldwani, 263139, District Nainital” and soft copy of dissertation (approved and duly signed by the supervisor) should be sent to the mail id: doge@uou.ac.in on 15/08/2026.*

GUIDELINES FOR SYNOPSIS

Synopsis should be summary of the study with significant findings that emphasize the original contributions in the submitted dissertation. After choosing the topic of the dissertation (themes allotted by university), use the following standards and structure to submit the synopsis.

1. **Title of the Dissertation/Topic**
 2. **Introduction:** must include background of proposed study, statement of problem and objectives.
 3. **Review of literature:** Highlights of already published work on the given topic.
 4. **Materials and methods:** Explains methods, tools & technique, materials required, etc. for the study.
 5. **References:** Cited literatures
- **Topic selection criteria:** Topic should be related to assigned themes of the dissertation work (attached in University website, Announcement).
 - **Synopsis must contain:** Synopsis should be of 3-5 pages. The standard font should be Times New Roman of 12 pts with 1.5-line spacing.
 - After finalizing the topic, the learners have to submit soft copy of synopsis, approved and duly signed by the supervisor to the mail id: doge@uou.ac.in

GUIDELINES FOR DISSERTATION

The dissertation should be presented in a number of chapters, starting with Introduction and ending with Summary and Conclusions. Each of the other chapters will have a precise title reflecting the contents of the chapter. A chapter can be subdivided into sections and subsection so as to present the content discretely and with due emphasis.

Chapter 1: Introduction:

The title of Chapter 1 shall be Introduction. It shall justify and highlight the problem posed, define the topic and explain the aim and scope of the work presented in the dissertation. It may also highlight the significant contributions from the investigation.

Chapter 2: Review of Literature:

This shall normally form Chapter 2 and shall present a critical appraisal of the previous work published in the literature pertaining to the topic of the investigation.

Chapter 3: Material and Methods:

This chapter deals with a detail methodology by which used to collect/ synthesize the data.

Chapter 4: Results and Discussions:

This shall form the penultimate chapter of the dissertation and shall include a thorough evaluation of the investigation carried out and bring out the contributions from the study. The discussion shall logically lead to inferences and conclusions as well as scope for possible further future work.

Chapter 5: Summary and Conclusions:

This will be the final chapter of the dissertation. A brief report of the work carried out shall form the first part of the Chapter. Conclusions derived from the logical analysis presented in the results and discussions chapter shall be presented and clearly enumerated, each point stated separately. Scope for future work should be stated lucidly in the last part of the chapter.

Chapter 6: References/Bibliography:

The candidates shall follow the style of citation and style of listing in one of the standard journals in the subject area consistently throughout his/her dissertation (mentioned below). However, the names of all the authors along with their initials and the full title of the article/monogram/book etc. have to be given in addition to the journals/publishers, volume, number, pages(s) and year of publication. Citation from websites should include the

names(s) of author(s) (including the initials), full title of the article, website reference and when last accessed. Reference to personal communications, similarly, shall include the author, title of the communication (if any) and date of receipt. The example is given below:

For journal:

Pant D., Tiwari, P.C. and Nand, K. (2024). A Geographical Study of Community Health Status in Development Block Betalghat, Kumaun Himalaya. International Research Journal of Humanities and Interdisciplinary Studies, 5 (3): pp. 50-59. [https://doi-
ds.org/doiink/03.2024-19871186/IRJHIS2403006](https://doi.org/doiink/03.2024-19871186/IRJHIS2403006)

For book:

Dogra N. and S. Srivastava (2012) Climate Change and Disease Dynamics in India. New Delhi: The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).

For Chapter in book:

Raghavendra, V.K. (1974). Trends and Periodicities of Rainfall in Sub-Divisions of Maharashtra State. Indian Journal of Meteorology and Geophysics, 25: pp. 197-210.

Chapter 7: Appendix:

- Detailed information, lengthy derivations, raw experimental observations etc. are to be presented in the separate appendices, which shall be numbered in Roman Capitals (e.g. “Appendix IV”).
- Submit the Plagiarism report (Any available plagiarism software) of the dissertation
- Please bind a copy of synopsis after the plagiarism report.

Type -Setting, Text Processing and Printing

The text shall be printed employing using a standard text processor. The standard font shall be Times New Roman of 12 pts with 1.5-line spacing.

Auxiliary

1. **Binding:** Hard Binding
2. **Front Covers:** The front covers shall contain the following details:
 - Full title of thesis in 22 point's size fonts properly centered and positioned at top.
 - Full name of the candidate in 15 point's size fonts properly centered at the middle of the page.
 - Do not use University emblem (university logo) on the dissertation or synopsis.

3. **Blank Sheets:** In addition to the white sheets (binding requirement) two white sheets shall be put at the beginning and the end of the dissertation.
4. **Title Sheet:** This shall be the first printed page of the thesis and shall contain the submission statement: the dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the Degree e.g. M.A. the name and enrollment No. of the candidate, name(s) of the Supervisor and Co- supervisor (s) (if any), Department, University and year of submission. Sample copy of the 'Title Sheet' is enclosed (Annexure I)
5. **Dedication:** Sheet If the candidate so desires(s) he may dedicate his/her dissertation, which statement shall follow the title page. If included, this shall form the page 1 of the auxiliary sheets but shall not have a page number.
6. **A Declaration of Academic Honesty and Integrity by Candidate:** A declaration of Academic honesty and integrity is required to be included along with every thesis/dissertation after the Supervisor's certificate. The format of this declaration is given in Annexure 'II' attached.
7. Certificate from Candidate and Supervisor (Annexure 'III'):
8. **Abstract:** The 500-word (maximum) abstract shall highlight the important features of the dissertation. The abstract in the dissertation, however, shall have two more parts, namely, the layout of the dissertation giving a brief chapter- wise description of the work and the key words.
9. **Contents:** The contents shall follow the abstract and shall enlist the titles of the chapters, section and sub-section using decimal notation, as in the text, with corresponding page number against them, flushed to the right. Two separate lists of figure captions and table titles along with their numbers and corresponding page numbers against them shall follow the contents.
10. **Abbreviation Notation and Nomenclature:** A complete and comprehensive list of all abbreviations, notations and nomenclature including Greek alphabets with subscripts and superscripts shall be provided after the list of tables and figures.

**IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON COMMUNITY HEALTH
IN BETALGHAT DEVELOPMENT BLOCK, KUMAON
HIMALAYA [example] (16 + Bold)**

A Dissertation (12 + Bold)

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the

Requirements for the award of the degree (12 + Italic)

Of (12 + Italic)

Masters of Arts (12 + Bold)

in (12 + Bold)

GEOGRAPHY (12 + Bold)

Submitted By: 12 + Italic)

(Learners' name) (12 + Bold)

Under the Supervision of 12 + Italic)

Pro./Dr..... (12 + Bold)

**Department of Geography and Natural Resource Management
School of Earth and Environmental Science
Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani
(Nainital) Uttarakhand. (14 + Bold)**

2026

Annexure II: Specimen for declaration certificate

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work which is being presented in the dissertation entitled **IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON COMMUNITY HEALTH IN BETALGHAT DEVELOPMENT BLOCK, KUMAUN HIMALAYA**) is my own words and where others' ideas or words have been included, I have adequately cited and referenced the original sources. I also declare that I have adhered to all principles of academic honesty and integrity and have not misrepresented or fabricated or falsified any ideas/data /fact/source in my submission. I understand that any violation of the above will be cause for disciplinary action by the University and can also evoke penal action from the sources which have thus not been properly cited or from whom proper permission has not been taken when needed.

(Signature)

(Name of Learner)

(Enrolment No/ Roll No.)

Date: __/__/2026

Place:

Annexure III: Specimen for certificate

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that (Name of Learner) S/o (ABC) and Mrs. (XYZ), Research Scholar, at the Department of Geography and Natural Resource Management Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani (Nainital) has worked for his Master Degree under my supervision on the topic ***(TITLE OF DISSERTATION)***.

It is also certified that his work is original and genuine to the best of my knowledge and belief. He has worked for a required period under the statutory provision of the University and completed his dissertation under the UGC regulations, released from time to time for the award of Master Degree.

(Name of Supervisor)

(Name of Learner)

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