

BANGALORE UNIVERSITY

Regulations Governing the Choice Based Credit System (Semester Scheme) in the Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Degree Programmes in the Faculties of Arts, Science and Commerce

(Framed under Section 44 (1) (c) of the KSU Act 2000)

Preamble:

New challenges in higher education have led to a paradigm shift in reconceptualising this sector in terms of what constitutes Higher Education and what the goals of this education ought to be. Traditional educational systems rely on information based knowledge. However the shortcomings in collapsing the task of knowledge acquisition to largely an exercise in imparting information are increasingly felt in society with profound consequences. The need of the hour is to move towards a more holistic approach that integrates providing of skills and specialized training with the values necessary to make a student into a better human being and a useful member of society. Thus the role of Universities and colleges in the 21st Century extends far beyond traditional knowledge creation and dissemination to encompass new expectations for innovations that will have broader social and economic benefits. Bangalore University wishes to initiate qualitative and substantial changes in its undergraduate and post-graduate programmes, to cater to the needs of students with diverse talents, aspirations and professional requirements. The students will have the option to exit after 2-years with award of Advance diploma (optional). The successful completion of 3-years of the undergraduate programme would lead to the award of the bachelor degree, as at present.

The University Grants Commission has formulated Guidelines for adoption of uniform Choice-Based Credit System (CBCS) across all the universities in the country and asked all the universities to implement them in all the under-graduate and post-graduate programmes. The State Higher Education Council has also communicated general guidelines in this regard.

The credit based semester system provides for flexibility in designing curriculum and assigning credits based on the course content and hours of teaching. The choice based credit system provides a 'cafeteria' type approach in which the students can take courses of their choice, learn at their own pace, undergo additional courses and acquire more than the required credits, and adopt an interdisciplinary approach to learning. Thus the Choice Based Credit Systems make the product of the university at par with the global practices in terms of academic standards and evaluation strategies, retaining the present structures of the undergraduate and post-graduate programmes. In the emerging scenario of Internationalization of Indian Higher Education, it is imperative that the Universities in India should follow this system so that the mobility of their products both within and across the geographical jurisdiction becomes possible. Hence the Bangalore University thought it fit to introduce the Choice Based Credit System in all the Undergraduate and Post-graduate Programmes in the Faculties of Arts, Science and Commerce, effective from the academic year 2014-15. For multifaceted development of students, curriculum emphasizes on wide variety of courses to enhance their knowledge in several core courses including those in languages and subjects in Arts, Science and Commerce, and value-based and skill development courses.

The Salient Features of the Credit Based Semester Scheme:

Each course shall carry certain number of credits. Credits normally represent the weightage of a course and are a function of teaching, learning and evaluation strategies such

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as the number of contact hours, the course content, teaching methodology, learning expectations, maximum marks etc. In the proposed programs, generally 1 to 2 hours of instructions per week in a semester is assigned one credit. On these basis, generally, a three-year six-semester degree program will have 104 credits and a five-year ten-semester master's degree programme will have 204 credits.

The general features of the Credit Based Semester Scheme are

- a) The relative importance of subjects of study are quantified in terms of credits.
- b) The subjects of study include foundation, core and skill development courses
- c) The programme permits horizontal mobility in course selections.
- d) The students shall take part in co-curricular and extension activities.
- e) The declaration of result is based on the Aggregate Percentage of marks obtained as well as on Aggregate or Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) earned.

Definitions of Key Words:

1. **Academic Year:** Two consecutive (one odd + one even) semesters constitute one academic year.
2. **Choice Based Credit System (CBCS):** The CBCS provides choice for students to select from the prescribed courses (core, elective or soft skill etc. courses).
3. **Course:** Usually referred to, as 'papers' is a component of a programme. All courses need not carry the same weight. The courses should define learning objectives and learning outcomes. A course may be designed to comprise lectures/ tutorials/laboratory work/ field work/ project work/ vocational training/viva/ seminars/term papers / assignments / presentations/ self-study etc. or a combination of some of these.
4. **Credit Based Semester System (CBSS):** Under the CBSS, the requirement for awarding a degree /diploma /certificate is prescribed in terms of number of credits to be completed.
5. **Credit:** A unit by which the course work is measured. It determines the number of hours of instructions required per week. One credit is equivalent to one to two hour of teaching (lecture or tutorial) or two hours of practical work/field work per week.
6. **Grade Point:** It is a numerical weight allotted to each letter grade on a 10-point scale.
7. **Credit Point:** It is the product of grade point and number of credits for a course.
8. **Letter Grade:** It is an index of the performance of students in a said course. Grades are denoted by letters O, A+, A, B+, B, C, P and F.
9. **Programme:** A programme leading to award of a Degree, diploma or certificate.
10. **Semester:** Each semester will consist of 15-18 weeks of academic work equivalent to 90 actual teaching days. The odd semester may be scheduled from July to December and even semester from January to June.
11. **Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA):** It is a measure of performance of work done in a semester. It is ratio of total credit points secured by a student in various courses registered in a semester and the total course credits taken during that semester. It shall be expressed up to two decimal places.
12. **Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA):** It is a measure of overall cumulative performance of a student over all semesters. The CGPA is the ratio of total credit points secured by a student in various courses in all semesters and the sum of the total credits of all courses in all the semesters. It is expressed up to two decimal places.
13. **Transcript or Grade Card or Certificate:** Based on the grades earned, a grade certificate shall be issued to all the registered students after every semester. The grade certificate will display the course details (code, title, number of credits, grade secured).

1. TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT:

- a) These regulations shall be called “The Regulations Governing the Choice Based Credit System (Semester Scheme) in the Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Degree Programmes in the Faculties of Arts, Science and Commerce”.
- b) These regulations shall come into force for award of the degrees from the date of assent of the Chancellor (2014-17 batch onwards).

2. DURATION OF THE PROGRAMMES, REQUIREMENTS AND OPTIONS:

Durations of the undergraduate programmes shall extend over SIX semesters (Three academic years) for the regular Bachelor Degree, with an exit option at the end of FOUR semesters (TWO academic years) with the Advance Diploma. Duration of the Integrated Masters Degree Programmes shall extend over TEN semesters (Five academic years) with exit options at the end of FOUR semesters (TWO academic years) with Advance Diploma or at the end of SIX semesters (Three academic years) with the Regular Bachelor Degree. Each semester shall consist of at least 16 weeks of study with a minimum of 90 working days (excluding the time spent for the conduct of final examination of each semester).

The candidates shall complete courses equivalent to at least 100 credits to become eligible for the Regular Bachelor Degree and at least 200 credits to become eligible for the Integrated Masters Degree.

It is optional to the candidate to exit or not after four semesters of the undergraduate programme with Advance Diploma with at least 60 credits. He/she will be eligible to rejoin the programme within ten years to complete the degree. Further, all candidates will be awarded Bachelor degrees on successful completion of SIX semesters (Three academic years) of the undergraduate programmes. Completion of five years of the integrated programmes would lead to Masters degrees in the subjects of their choice.

14. Bachelor of Commerce, B.Com.; Bachelor of Commerce (Banking & Finance), B.Com.(BF) & Bachelor of Commerce (Insurance and Actuarial Studies), B.Com.(IAS)

	Subjects	Paper	Instruction hrs/week	Duration of Exam(hrs)	Marks			Credits
					IA	Exam	Total	
a) I / II Semester								
Part 1	2 Languages	2T	2x4	2x3	2x30	2x70	2x100	2x2
Part 2	4 Core Subject Papers	4T	4x4	4x3	4x30	4x70	4x100	4x2
Part 3	FC/SDC	1T	1x3	1x3	1x30	1x70	1x100	1x2
	CC / E A	-	-	-	50	-	50	1
Total Credits per Semester								15
b) III / IV Semester								
Part 1	2 Languages	L1	1x4	2x3	2x30	2x70	2x100	2x2
		L2	1x3					
Part 2	Core Subject Papers	5T	4x4 1x3	5x3	5x30	5x70	5x100	5x2
Part 3	FC/SDC	1T	1x3	1x3	1x30	1x70	1x100	1x2
	CC / E A	-	-	-	50	-	50	1
Total Credits per Semester								17
c) V / VI Semester								
Part 2	6 Core Subject Papers	6T	6x4	6x3	6x50	6x100	6x150	6x3
Part 3	SDC	1T	1x3	1x3	1x30	1x70	1x100	1x2
Total Credits per Semester								20

15. Bachelor of Business Administration, B.B.A.

	Subjects	Paper	Instruction hrs/week	Duration of Exam(hrs)	Marks			Credits
					IA	Exam	Total	
a) I / II Semester								
Part 1	2 Languages	2T	2x4	2x3	2x30	2x70	2x100	2x2
Part 2	4 Business Admin. Papers	4T	4x4	4x3	4x30	4x70	4x100	4x2
Part 3	Foundation / Compulsory Course	1T	1x3	1x3	1x30	1x70	1x100	1x2
	CC / E A	-	-	-	50	-	50	1
Total Credits per Semester								15
b) III / IV Semester								
Part 1	1 Language	1T	1x4	1x3	1x30	1x70	1x100	1x2
Part 2	6 Business Admin. Papers	6T	6x4	6x3	6x30	6x70	6x100	6x2
Part 3	SDC	1T	1x3	1x3	1x30	1x70	1x100	1x2
	CC & EC	-	-	-	50	-	50	1
Total Credits per Semester								17
c) V / VI Semester								
Part 2	6 Business Admin. Papers	6T	6x4	6x3	6x50	6x100	6x150	6 x 3
Part 3	SDC	1T	1x3	1x3	1x30	1x70	1x100	1x2
Total Credits per Semester								20

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