

Choice Based Credit System: YCMOU Apporach

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Introduction

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has initiated several measures to bring equity, efficiency and excellence in the Higher Education System of country. The important measures taken to enhance academic standards and quality in higher education include innovation and improvements in curriculum, teaching-learning process, examination and evaluation systems, besides governance and other matters. The UGC has formulated various regulations and guidelines

Yashwantrao Chavan Open University has been adapted Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) from 2015 as per UGC guidelines. The CBCS provides choice for students to select from the prescribed courses (core, elective or minor or soft skill courses) of the Post Graduate Programme in the concerned subject of Commerce / Management / Humanities / Social Sciences / Agriculture / Education / Distance Education / Architecture / Science / Technology / Health Science / Computer Science conducted by the School of Commerce and Management / School of Humanities and Social Sciences / School of Agricultural Sciences / School of Education / School of Continuing Education / School of Architecture, Science & Technology / School of Health Science / School of Computer Science.

Credit Based Semester System (CBSS)

'Papers' is a component of a programme. All courses need not carry the same weight. The courses have defines learning objectives and learning outcomes. A course are designed to comprise lectures/ tutorials/laboratory work/ field work/ outreach activities/ project work/ vocational training/viva/ seminars/ term papers/assignments/ presentations/self-study etc. or a combination of some of these.

For awarding a degree or diploma or certificate is prescribed in terms of number of credits to be completed by the students.

Objectives of Choice Based Credit System (CBCS)

- To provide an autonomy to learner to select the courses of his choice within or without his area of specialization,
- To accelerate the teaching-learning process through Semester Pattern and to enable vertical and horizontal mobility in learning,
- To provide an opportunity of Interdisciplinary Learning thereby providing for development of a complete personality.
- To provide flexibility of learning at PG level

Courses

The evaluation pattern of the PG programs with CBCS have mentioned in the prospectus of the respective programs.

There are at least one slot of Generic Electives in an academic year, each with 4 credits. The student may opt for any one of the following generic electives in Semester

- 1.Cyber Security
- 2.Foreign Languages (English, French, German, Arabic)
- 3.Communication Skills
- 4.Office Tools

The student may opt for any one of the following generic electives in Semester 4.

- 1.Value Education
- 2.Yoga

Delivery of CBCS

All the generic electives are of Theoretical in nature. They are implemented using online mode of delivery. The examination of such courses are conducted using online and on-demand methodology.

Modality of CBCS

There shall be following two options available to students:

- 1) A student can select any one of the Generic Elective Course as an option to the specific course under the

concerned PG Program. The details about the availability of such options shall be available in the prospectus of the concerned PG Program. The marks obtained in the examination of Generic Elective Course shall be considered and counted for declaration of the result of Semester Examination.

2) A student can also select any one of the generic Electives Course as an "Audit Course". The marks obtained in the examination of Generic Elective Course as an "Audit Course" shall not be considered and counted for declaration of the result of Semester Examination. However, the Grade obtained shall be indicated on the mark statement

Assesment of CBCS

In assessing the performance of the students in examinations, the usual approach will be to award marks based on the examinations conducted at various stages (sessional, mid-term, end-semester etc.) in a semester. The numeric marks obtained in such examinations shall be converted to appropriate letter grades. In order to avoid the variations, the UGC recommendations shall be followed. The following system to be implemented in awarding the grades and CGPA under the credit based semester system Grading

The examinees shall be evaluated for internal assessment and end examination as per the evaluation pattern for the respective courses. The numerical marks in the aggregate shall be converted to the appropriate Letter grade and Grade point on prorata basis, i.e. using scaling down 100 marks to 10 Grade point Scale. Thus, a person who has scored 46 marks out of maximum 100 marks in the aggregate shall get C (Average) Grade securing 5 points

Summing Up

In CBCS pattern students can learn their own pace and they can choose courses on their own choice. They can opt for an interdisciplinary approach to learning and have scope to enhance their skills and taking up a projects and assessments. The system improves the job opportunities of students. YCMOU will definitely create such type of these benefits to the students.

References

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- 3) http://collegesat.du.ac.in/UGC_credit_Guidelines.pdf. Retrieved on date 18.12.2015
- 4) http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdf/news/8023719_Guidelines-for-CBCS.pdf. Retrieved on date 18.12.2015