

CHOICE BASED CREDIT SYSTEM (CBCS) REGULATIONS HAND BOOK (2019-20 ONWARDS)

1. CHOICE BASED CREDIT SYSTEM (CBCS)

The Choice Based Credit System is a flexible system of learning. The CBCS was introduced for various programmes offered by the University from 2008-09 onwards. The distinguishing student friendly features of CBCS allow students to:

- Learn at their own pace
- Choose electives from a wide range of elective courses offered by the University departments with consultation of Department Faculty Members
- Adopt inter-disciplinary approach by choosing supportive papers in learning and make best use of the expertise of available faculty.

DEPARTMENTS AND PROGRAMMES

There are 27 departments offering programmes at various levels under the CBCS. A programme consists of number of courses. A 'Course' is a component (a paper) of a programme. Every course offered by the University departments is identified by a unique course code. A course may be designed to involve lectures / tutorials / laboratory work/ seminar / project work / practical training / assignments / industrial training / viva voce, etc. or a combination of these, to meet effectively the teaching and learning needs and the credits may be assigned suitably.

SEMESTERS

An academic year consists of two semesters namely, Odd Semester (I and III Semesters): July to November; and Even Semester (II and IV Semesters): December to April. A semester normally extends over a period of 15 weeks. Each week has 30 hours instruction spread over a 5 day week. The duration of each semester shall be 90 working days for all PG Programme and 120 working days for B.Voc., Programme inclusive of examinations.

CREDITS

Credit defines the quantum of contents/syllabus prescribed for a course and determines the number of hours of instruction required per week. Thus, normally in each of the courses, credits will be assigned on the basis of the number of lectures/tutorial/ laboratory work and other forms of learning required to complete the course contents in a 15-week schedule:

1 Credit=Minimum 1 hour of lecture per week (1Credit course= Minimum 15 hours of lectures per semester)

3 Credits = Minimum 3 hours of lecture per week (3 Credit course = Minimum 45 hours of lectures per semester)

The total minimum credits required for awarding a two year PG degree is 90, and for B.Voc., it is 180.

PROJECT

Each student shall be required to take up an Individual Student Project Work at PG level and submit it at the end of the final semester. Students shall be allotted to all the faculty members for project guidance in a departmental committee meeting with the concurrence of all the members. A copy of the Project Report shall be submitted to the Department on or before the last date fixed by the Department/University. The Project shall be evaluated by the guide and an external examiner nominated by the University and viva-voce examination be conducted to award the marks as per norms.

COURSE NUMBERING

Every course offered by the University Departments is identified by a unique course code with 11 digits Illustration: Course code -18UPCSC1C02: Design and Analysis of Algorithms

1st&2nd Digits: Effective year of the syllabi (18)

3rd&4th Digits: University Programme (UP)

5th, 6th & 7th Digits: Department code (CSC – Computer Science)

8th Digit: Degree code, Department may offer different Degree Programmes (1 – M.Sc. (Computer Science), 2 – M.C.A, etc.)

9th Digit: C for Core Course, E for Elective Course

10th & 11th Digits: Serial Number of the course code (1 to n).

SUPPORTIVE PAPER:

Supportive course should be offered only in second and third semesters. Students are expected to opt Supportive Course (Non major elective) offered by other departments.

SWAYAM COURSE:

SWAYAM is a programme initiated by Government of India and designed to achieve the three cardinal principles of Education Policy namely access, equity and quality. The objective of this effort is to take the best teaching learning resources to all, including the most disadvantaged. SWAYAM seeks to bridge the digital divide for students who have hitherto remained untouched by the digital revolution and have not been able to join the mainstream of the knowledge economy. The courses hosted on SWAYAM are in 4 quadrants – (1) video lecture, (2) specially prepared reading material that can be downloaded/printed (3) self-assessment tests through tests and quizzes and (4) an online discussion forum for clearing the doubts. Steps have been taken to enrich the learning experience by using audio-video and

multi-media and state of the art pedagogy / technology. In order to ensure best quality content are produced and delivered, nine National Coordinators have been appointed: They are AICTE for self-paced and international courses, NPTEL for engineering, UGC for non-technical post-graduation education, CEC for under-graduate education, NCERT and NIOS for school education, IGNOU for out of the school students, IIMB for management studies and NITTTR for Teacher Training programme. Courses delivered through SWAYAM are available free of cost to the learners, however, students wanting certifications shall be registered, shall be offered a certificate on successful completion of the course, with a little fee. At the end of each course, there will be an assessment of the student through proctored examination and the marks/grades secured in this exam could be transferred to the academic record of the students.

Learning Outcomes Based Education (OBE) Curriculum:

The learning outcomes-based curriculum framework for education is a framework based on the expected learning outcomes and academic standards that are expected to be attained by graduates of a programme of study and holder of a qualification.

The OBE was introduced for various programmes offered by the University from 2019-20 onwards. The overall objectives of the learning outcomes-based curriculum framework are to:

- Formulate graduate attributes, qualification descriptors, Programme Learning Outcomes and Course Learning Outcomes that are expected to be demonstrated by the holder of a qualification;
- Enable prospective students, parents, employers and others to understand the nature and level of learning outcomes (knowledge, skills, attitudes and values) or attributes a graduate of a programme should be capable of demonstrating on successful completion of the programme of study;
- Maintain national standards and international comparability of learning outcomes and academic standards to ensure global competitiveness, and to facilitate student/graduate mobility; and
- Provide higher education institutions an important point of reference for designing teaching-learning strategies, assessing student learning levels, and periodic review of programmes and academic standards.

2. EXAMINATIONS

There shall be examinations at the end of each semester: for odd semesters in October/ November; and for even semesters in April/May.

EVALUATION

The performance of a student in each course is evaluated in terms of percentage of marks with a provision for conversion to grade points. Evaluation for each course shall be done by a Continuous Internal Assessment (CIA) by the course teacher concerned as well as by an end semester examination and will be consolidated at the end of the semester.

THEORY EXAMINATION

Evaluation of Continuous Internal Assessment

Test	:	5 Marks (Best one out of Two Tests)
Model Examination	:	5 Marks
Seminar	:	5 Marks
Assignment	:	5 Marks
Attendance	:	5 Marks

Total	:	25 Marks

There is no Minimum pass in the internal Assessment.

END SEMESTER EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER PATTERN

Time duration: 3 Hours

Max.Marks:75

PART- A: 20 x1 = 20

Answer all the questions

(Four Objective type questions from each unit)

PART- B: 3 x5 = 15

Answer any three questions out of five questions

(One question should be taken from each unit)

(Questions must be analytical type)

PART- C: 5 x8 = 40

Answer all the questions

(Either or type one pair from each unit)

The Passing minimum shall be 50% (i.e. 38 marks) out of 75 marks.

PRACTICAL/ MINI PROJECT EXAMINATION

Evaluation of Internal Assessment

Test	:	20 Marks (Best one out of Two Tests)
Model Practical	:	20 Marks

Total	:	40 Marks

There is no Minimum pass mark in the Internal Assessment for Practical examinations.

GRADING SYSTEM

PASSING MINIMUM

A candidate shall be declared to have passed in each course if he/she secures not less than 50% marks in the University Examinations and not less than 50% in the aggregate, including CIA and University Examinations marks.

MARKS AND GRADES

Conversion of Marks to Grade Point and Letter Grade (Performance in a subject) as follows.

Range of Marks	Grade Points	Letter Grade	Description
90 - 100	9.0 – 10.0	O	Outstanding
80 - 89	8.0 – 8.9	D+	Excellent
75 - 79	7.5 – 7.9	D	Distinction
70 - 74	7.0 – 7.4	A+	Very Good
60 - 69	6.0 – 6.9	A	Good
50 - 59	5.0 – 5.9	B	Average
00 - 49	0.0	U	Re-Appear
ABSENT	0.0	AAA	Absent

C_i = Credits earned for course i in any semester

G_i = Grade Point obtained for course i in any semester

n = The semester in which such courses were credited.

For a Semester:

$$\text{GRADE POINT AVERAGE [GPA]} = \frac{\sum_i C_i G_i}{\sum_i C_i}$$

GPA = Sum of the multiplication of grade points by the credits of the courses/ Sum of the Credits of the courses in a semester

For the Entire Programme:

$$\text{CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE [CGPA]} = \frac{\sum_n \sum_i C_i G_{ni}}{\sum_n \sum_i C_{ni}}$$

CGPA = Sum of the multiplication of grade points by the credits of the entire Programme/ Sum of the Credits of the courses of the entire Programme

CLASSIFICATION OF FINAL RESULT

CGPA	Grade	Classification of Final Result
9.5 – 10.0	O+	First Class with Exemplary*
9.0 and above but below 9.5	O	
8.5 and above but below 9.0	D++	First Class with Distinction*
8.0 and above but below 8.5	D+	
7.5 and above but below 8.0	D	
7.0 and above but below 7.5	A++	First Class
6.5 and above but below 7.0	A+	
6.0 and above but below 6.5	A	
5.5 and above but below 6.0	B+	Second Class
5.0 and above but below 5.5	B	
0.0 and above but below 5.0	U	Re-Appear

* The candidates who have passed in the first appearance and within the prescribed semester of the PG Program are eligible.

Condonation

Students must have 75% of attendance in each semester to appear for the examination. Students who have attendance between 65% and 74% shall apply for condonation in the prescribed form with the prescribed fee to write the examination in the same semester. Students who have attendance between 50% and 64% shall apply for condonation in prescribed form with the prescribed fee along with the Medical Certificate in the current semester but they can write their examinations only in the next semester. Students who have attendance below 50% are not eligible to appear for the examination. But the student can

continue the programme to complete the duration. To complete the programme they shall re-do the semester(s) after completion of the programme duration to acquire required attendance for appearing missed semester examinations.

However, the candidates have to clear all the subjects prescribed for programme within N+3 Years to acquire degree, where N denotes the duration of the programme.

3. COURSE TEACHER

A teacher offering a course will also be responsible for maintaining attendance and evaluate the performance of all the students registered for the course.

4. BREAK OF STUDY

A student intends to temporarily discontinue the programme in the middle of the semester for valid reasons and to rejoin the programme in the next academic year, for which he / she shall apply in advance with applicable Re-admission fees to the Registrar, Periyar University through the Principal/HOD of the respective colleges/University Department.

5. STUDENT ADVISOR and COURSE REGISTRATION

Every student will have a member of faculty of the department as his/her student advisor. All teachers of the department shall function as Student Advisors and will have more or less equal number of students. The Student Advisor will advise the students in choosing Elective courses and offer all possible student support services. The student will then register for the course he/she plans to take for the semester before the commencement of the classes.

COURSE REGISTRATION

Name of the Student :
Department :
Registration Number :
Programme :
Semester :
Elective Course Option :

S.No.	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3

Signature of the Student Advisor/Mentor

Signature of the Student

Approved by Head of the Department

6. BOARD OF STUDIES

There shall be a Board of Studies consisting of three to four teachers in the department, two external members (subject experts), one Industrial expert and one alumnus from the department. In order to optimize the use of resources and talents; to avoid duplication of courses and to effectively coordinate CBCS programmes within a department, it is headed by the Head of the Department. The Board of Studies will formulate and recommend the following aspects:

- i. Eligibility criteria for admission to CBCS Programmes
 - ii. Course structure and Curriculum Contents
 - iii. Model Question paper for each course and assessment procedure with a Panel of Examiners
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