

CURRICULUM AND CREDIT FRAMEWORK FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

NEP 2020

Guidelines



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Abbreviation

AEC	Ability Enhancement Course
CCFUGP	Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programmes
CDOE	Centre for Distance & Open Learning
CGPA	Cumulative Grade Point Average
DSC	Discipline Specific Course
DSE	Discipline Specific Elective Course
GPA	Grade Point Average
HEI	Higher Education Institution
HPU	Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla
HPU-UGP	Himachal Pradesh University Undergraduate Programme
IAPC	Internship/Apprenticeship/Minor Project/ Community Outreach Programme
MDC	Multidisciplinary Course
MIL	Modern Indian Language
NCC	National Cadet Corps
NCrF	National Credit Framework
NEP	National Education Policy
NHEQF	National Higher Education Qualification Framework
NSS	National Service Scheme
ODL	Open and Distance Learning
SEC	Skill Enhancement Course
SGPA	Semester Grade Point Average
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
SWAYAM	Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds
UGP	Undergraduate Programme
UGC	University Grants Commission
VAC	Value-Addition Course
VC	Vocational Course

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CURRICULUM AND CREDIT FRAMEWORK FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

1. Introduction

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 recognises that higher education plays a crucial role in promoting human and societal well-being, and in developing India as envisioned in its Constitution—a democratic, just, socially conscious, and humane nation that upholds liberty, equality, fraternity, and justice for all. The NEP 2020 notes, "given the 21st-century requirements, quality higher education must aim to develop good, thoughtful, well-rounded, and creative individuals."

The NEP 2020 states, "*Assessments of educational approaches in undergraduate education that integrate the humanities and arts with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) have consistently shown positive learning outcomes, including increased creativity and innovation, crucial thinking and higher-order thinking capacities, problem-solving abilities, teamwork, communication skills, more in-depth learning and mastery of curricula across fields, increases in social and moral awareness, etc., besides general engagement and enjoyment of learning.*"

Further, the NEP 2020 also recommends that "*the undergraduate degree will be of either 3- or 4-year duration, with multiple exit options within this period, with appropriate certifications.*"

In accordance with the NEP 2020, the UGC has formulated a new student-centric "**Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programmes (UGC-CCFUGP 2022)**" incorporating a flexible choice-based credit system, multidisciplinary approach, and multiple entry and exit options, which will facilitate students to pursue their career path by choosing the subject/field of their interest.

Based on the UGC-CCFUGP notified in December 2022, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla (HPU) has developed a Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programmes (HPU-CCFUGP, hereafter HPU-UGP), incorporating all essential aspects of the UGC-CCFUGP to facilitate the achievement of the policy visions stated in the NEP 2020. This HPU-UGP will also apply to the professional courses not covered by other regulatory bodies.

2. New Curriculum and Credit Framework

The aims and objectives of the Curriculum and Credit Framework under NEP 2020 are to highlight certain fundamental principles that will guide both the education system as a whole and individual educational institution. These objectives, as stated below, have a direct bearing on the curricula for different levels of higher education:

- i. First of all, the policy endeavours to recognise, identify, and foster the unique capabilities of each student to promote their holistic development.
- ii. It also attempts to provide flexibility, allowing learners to select their learning trajectories and programmes, and thereby choose their path in life according to their talents and interests.
- iii. The policy promises to provide multidisciplinary and holistic education across the sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities, and sports for an interdisciplinary world.
- iv. It emphasises conceptual understanding rather than rote learning. The policy also aims to foster critical thinking and encourages learners to make logical decisions.

- v. The policy upholds ethics, and human & constitutional values and emphasises building life skills such as communication, teamwork, leadership, and resilience.
- vi. The policy also emphasises the extensive use of technology in teaching and learning, removing language barriers, increasing access for students with disabilities (*Divyang*), and enhancing educational planning and management.
- vii. The policy aims to ensure respect for diversity and the local context in all curricula, pedagogy, and policies.
- viii. The policy emphasises equity and inclusion as the cornerstone of all educational decisions, ensuring that all students can thrive in the education system. It also ensures that the institutional environment is responsive to differences, thereby making high-quality education available to all.
- ix. The policy also aims to ensure that the education system is grounded in the values of Indian civilisation and fosters pride in India and its rich, diverse, ancient, and modern culture, languages, knowledge systems, and traditions.

3. Curricular Goals

The new student-centric CCFUGP of UGC introduces holistic and multidisciplinary undergraduate education that would help develop all capacities of human beings – intellectual, aesthetic, social, physical, emotional, ethical, and moral – in an integrated manner; soft skills, such as complex problem solving, critical thinking, creative thinking, communication skills; and rigorous specialization in a chosen field(s) of learning.

The curricular and credit framework of CCFUGP under NEP 2020 seeks to ensure the following for the students:

- i. Flexibility to move from one discipline of study to;
- ii. Opportunity for learners to choose the courses of their interest in all disciplines;
- iii. Facilitating multiple entry and exit options with a UG certificate/UG diploma/or degree, depending upon the number of credits secured;
- iv. Flexibility for learners to move from one institution to another to enable them to have multi- and/or interdisciplinary learning;
- v. Flexibility to switch to alternative modes of learning (offline, ODL, Online learning, and hybrid modes of learning).

4. Outcome-Based Approach

The National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF) envisages that students must possess the quality and characteristics of the graduate of a programme of study, including learning outcomes relating to the disciplinary area(s) in the chosen field(s) of learning and generic learning outcomes that are expected to be acquired by a graduate on completion of the programme(s) of study.

The New Curriculum Framework for UG Programmes envisages that graduate attributes are fostered through meaningful learning experiences made available through the curriculum and learning experience, the total college/university experience, and a process of critical and reflective thinking. The graduate attributes expected of all students to acquire and demonstrate through the New Curriculum Framework for UG programmes are given under clause 30 (pp. 36-41).

5. UG Degree Programmes

The UGC-CCFUGP: 3.2.3 offers various undergraduate degree programmes for students to choose from. The different UG Degree programmes are:

- i. **UG Degree Programmes with Single Major:** A student must secure a minimum of 50% credits in the major discipline for a 3-year/4-year UG Degree to be awarded a single major.

For example:

In a 3-year UG programme, the total number of credits to be earned is 128; a student of History with 64 credits will be awarded a Bachelor of Arts in History with a single major.

Similarly, in a 4-year UG programme, the total number of credits to be earned is 168; a student of History with a minimum of 84 credits will be awarded a Bachelor of Arts (Honours or Honours with Research) in History with a single Major.

- ii. **UG Degree Programmes with Double Major:** A student must secure a minimum of 40% credits in the second major discipline for the 3-year/4-year UG degree to be awarded a double major.
- iii. **Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Programmes:** The credits for core courses shall be distributed among the constituent disciplines/subjects to achieve core competence in the multidisciplinary programme.

For example:

A student opts for (a) Mathematics, (b) Statistics, and (c) Physics for a UG programme. The degree for such students will be a Bachelor of Physical Science, awarded after a 3-year undergraduate programme. For such a candidate, to pursue a degree in the fourth year, they shall have to choose only one of the disciplines (A, B or C) in which they have studied 6 DSCs and 5 DSEs in the first three years. The degree will be awarded a Bachelor of Physical Sciences (Honours or Honours with Research) in Physics (if chosen Physics) for a 4-year undergraduate programme.

- iv. **Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Programmes:** For students pursuing a multidisciplinary programme of study, the credits for core courses will be distributed across various broad disciplines, including Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Mathematical and Computer Sciences, Data Analysis, Social Sciences, and Humanities.

For example:

A student who opts for a UG programme in Life Sciences will have the total credits to core courses distributed across (a) Botany, (b) Zoology and (c) Human Biology disciplines. The Degree will be awarded as a Bachelor's in Life Sciences for a 3-year UG programme. For such a candidate, to pursue a Degree in the fourth year, he/she shall have to choose only one of the disciplines (either A, B or C) in which he/she has studied at least 6 DSCs and 5 DSEs of Core/Major courses in the first three years. The degree awarded will be Bachelor of Life Science (Honours/ or Honours with Research) in Botany (if chosen Botany) for a 4-year UG Programme.

- 5.1 At the initial stage of implementation of NEP 2020, students shall have the following Degree Options:
- A. The 3-year UG Programme shall have two degree options:
 - i. Multidisciplinary/Interdisciplinary
 - ii. Single Core Discipline (Major)
 - The students shall declare their Major and Minor, finally, at the end of the second semester.
 - In both cases, the requirements of core and common courses remain the same.
 - B. The Four-year UG Programme shall have two degree options:
 - i. Honours
 - ii. Honours with Research
 - Students with 3-year Degrees in the Multidisciplinary/Interdisciplinary programme will have to choose, in the fourth year, only one of the disciplines in which they have studied six DSCs and five DSEs in the first three years.
 - Students with a 3-year undergraduate degree in a Single Core Discipline (Major) will pursue a fourth year in their Major discipline.
 - C. The other UG Programmes, including Double Major, will be initiated in a phased manner in due course of time.

6. Programme Components

Towards the attainment of holistic and multidisciplinary education, the HEI/College will offer courses from every Department before the commencement of each semester, listing the courses for Major, Minors, Discipline-Specific Electives, Multidisciplinary Studies, Ability Enhancement, Skill Enhancement, and Value Addition, along with the offering departments and course in-charges. This will enable students to select the courses of their choice. The students will then choose the courses of their choice from the list being offered, taking into account the requirements outlined in the curriculum of the degree they are pursuing.

The entire 3-year/4-year UG programme curriculum is divided into two parts: (a) Core Courses and (b) Common Courses, which are described below.

A. List of Core Courses

The core courses comprise Discipline-Specific, Discipline-Specific Elective (DSE), and Minor courses. All core courses have a credit allocation of 4. Altogether, irrespective of any significant or minor options, a student will necessarily need to study 23 courses with a total credit allocation of 92 over a 3-year programme. The degrees relevant to the core courses will be awarded.

i. Major Courses

Courses offered by a particular department for own students. The minimum credit requirement for a Single Core Discipline (Major) over 3 years is 64, which translates to 16 courses, including 5 DSEs.

ii. Minor Courses

One of the Major courses offered by the Department shall be treated as a Minor for students of other departments. The department may also offer a separate course or repeat

the same course(s) as a Minor for students of other departments. The minimum credit requirement for a Minor Course over 3 years is 24, which translates to 6 courses.

B. List of Common Courses

As the name suggests, these courses must be studied by all students in the 3-year or 4-year undergraduate programme. Together, the common courses have a credit allocation of 36, divided over five subdivisions.

i. Multidisciplinary Courses (MDC): Total Credits 9

Courses offered by a particular department shall be considered multidisciplinary for students of other departments. A student cannot opt for an MDC catering to their Core Courses (Major and Minor). The student should be motivated to opt for a different subject each semester.

ii. Ability Enhancement Course (AEC): Total Credits 8

Courses on Language and Communication Skills, viz. English, Hindi, and Sanskrit

iii. Skill Enhancement Course (SEC): Total Credits 9

The HEI/College will identify the Skill Enhancement Courses to be offered in a semester, and students will choose the skill course of his/her choice from the courses offered.

iv. I/A/P/C/ (or Work-based Vocational Course*): Total credits 4

Internship/Apprenticeship/Minor Project/Community Outreach (I/A/P/C) or Work-based Vocational Courses are courses common to all students and will be carried out during the winter and summer terms/vacations. Although offered in the second semester, students may be encouraged to make their choice at the end of the first semester, allowing them to carry out activities during winter vacation as well.

*This course will not be offered in the first (beginning) academic session.

v) Value-Addition Course (VAC): Total 6 Credits

These are the course(s) common to all students to be offered as a VAC category in a particular semester. The HEI/College will assign one or more teachers to teach these courses as required, regardless of the teacher's background or qualifications.

7. New Programmes and Courses

Himachal Pradesh University may edit or deactivate any existing programmes/courses and offer new ones in the subsequent academic years. HPU enables affiliated colleges, institutions, councils, and other agencies to propose new programmes and courses, which will be considered by relevant bodies in alignment with the National Higher Education Qualifications Framework (NHEQF) and the National Curriculum Framework (NCrF) guidelines.

8. Eligibility for the UG Programmes

- a. A student who has passed 12th standard or equivalent examination in any stream from a recognised institution (UGC-CCFUGP: 3.2.3).

- b. Admission to the 3-year/4-year UG programme will be based on the preference of the Major, if any. In case a student does not want to opt for any major in the 3-year programmes/they will be admitted based on their preferences for subject combinations.
- c. Admission to a discipline-specific course or major will be subject to the availability of the subject and the capacity of the college/department/centre.
- d. No student shall be eligible for admission to a Programme in any discipline unless s/he fulfils the prerequisites of courses as fixed by the university.

9. Reservation

The statutory reservation policy of the Government of Himachal Pradesh shall be followed in the selection of eligible candidates for admission.

10. Academic Bank of Credits (ABC)

The HPU-UGP is directly connected to the Academic Bank of Credit (ABC) as notified by the UGC. All credits a student earns at the end of an examination in HPU-UGP will be deposited in the ABC by the university.

As such, a student under HPU-UGP must register for the ABC as notified by the regulatory agencies.

11. Duration for Award of UG Certificate, UG Diploma and Degree

The UG Programmes will be of either 3 or 4-year duration with appropriate certifications and exits, such as:

- i. UG Certificate after completing 1 year (2 semesters) of study in the chosen fields of study with **44 credits**, including four credits in I/A/P/C/ or work-based vocational course(s) offered during winter/or summer term.
- ii. UG Diploma after 2 years (4 semesters) of study with **86 credits**.
- iii. 3-Year Bachelor's Degree after successful completion of three years (6 semesters) with **128 credits**.
- iv. 4-Year Bachelor's Degree (Honours) after successful completion of four years (eight semesters) with **168 credits**.
- v. 4-Year Bachelor's Degree (Honours with Research) after successful completion of four years (eight semesters) with a Research Project or Dissertation under the guidance of an eligible regular faculty member, securing **168 credits**, out of which **12 credits** will be for the Research Project or Dissertation.
- vi. Students will be permitted to take a break from the study during the period of study, but the total duration of completing the programme shall not exceed 7 years.

It should be noted that any certificate/diploma/degree is awarded only if the student clears (i.e., passes) all the required courses (papers) up to that point in time.

Note: College/CDOE/Department/HPU-DES will decide whether to offer a 3-year or 4-year undergraduate programme before the academic session starts. However, the 4-Year Bachelor's Degree Programme may be considered a preferred option, as it would provide an opportunity to

experience the full range of holistic and multidisciplinary education (*vide UGC letter No. 27-3/2023 (CU) dated 28th March 2023*).

12. Change of Programme

The students who wish to change programmes in the 2nd year (or third semester) shall be eligible only for the 3-year B.A. programme (Multidisciplinary), subject to availability of seats and the Major programme in the College and earning of additional credits (8 each in each of the two core Major disciplines). Two courses of any one discipline studied in the first two semesters will be treated as a Minor. The remaining 16 credits shall be earned from a single Minor discipline.

13. Multiple Exits and Entries

As permissible under UGC Guidelines for Multiple Entry and Exit in Academic Programmes offered in Higher Education Institutions, students will be allowed to enter/re-enter in the odd semesters and exit after even semesters, provided that they fulfil the minimum requirements for entry and exit.

For example, a student can exit a programme after one year and then re-enter the programme at a later time, continuing from where they left off. This process can be executed multiple times. However, entry into the programme is subject to the availability of positions at the institute/college at that time. However, an institution can increase the number of seats by ten per cent to accommodate students re-entering the programme or coming from a different institution. Besides, the following should apply:

- a. A student will receive a certificate/diploma/degree upon exiting the HPU-UGP (depending on the year of graduation), provided they have passed all the minimum compulsory courses at that point in time.
- b. After exiting, either at the end of Year 1 or Year 2, the student can seek entry only into the same program to which they were initially admitted.
- c. When a student exits the HPU-UGP after 3 years with a Bachelor's Degree, s/he cannot seek reentry into the programme in the fourth year; instead/they will need to take admission into the Master's programme in the first year.
- d. Students with a UG degree with Honours after 4 years will have to take admission into the second year of a 2-year Master's programme.
- e. Students with a UG degree with Honours and Research after 4 years can directly progress to a PhD programme, provided they secure a minimum of 75% marks.
- f. As the contents (syllabi) of all courses are subject to modification from time to time, when a student re-enters the programme after an earlier exit, they must study the content of all courses available at that time.

The Multiple Entry and Exit policy shall also include students from other Universities and Colleges affiliated with other Universities who wish to join H.P. University or its affiliated colleges. The admission of such students shall be based on the merit of their score in the previous Semesters and availability of seats.

14. Migration

Students pursuing their 3-year Undergraduate programme through the regular mode (i.e., a student from any college affiliated with H.P. University) can transfer their admission to CDOE at any point during a semester. Such a student, however, shall have to pay the complete Semester fee of the concerned semester as well, irrespective of the duration of the semester gone by. Students pursuing their 3-year Undergraduate programme from CDOE can be migrated or admitted as regular students to colleges against vacant seats at the beginning of the semesters.

15. Inter-Institution Mobility

The HPU-UGP enables students to engage in inter-institutional mobility, both for incoming and outgoing students. For this, HPU will take into account the credits that the student has in their ABC.

For an incoming student, the following should be observed:

- a. The entry is subject to the availability of seats in the concerned discipline.
- b. The student must fulfil all the academic prerequisites of the relevant discipline.
- c. HPU will award a degree to a student only when the student has completed at least 60% of the credits for core courses offered by HPU.

16. Infrastructure Requirements

College/CDOE/Department/HPU-DES may offer a 3-year Major programme and a 4-year Honours programme, depending upon the required infrastructure & faculty positions. After the 3-year programme, students also have the option to join the first year of the 2-year Master's Degree programme in Universities and Colleges.

Offering a 4-year undergraduate degree (Honours with Research) requires additional infrastructure, including a library, access to journals, a computer lab and software, laboratory facilities for experimental research, and at least two permanent faculty members who are recognised as PhD Supervisors. Students who secure 75% or more marks in the first three years shall be eligible for a 4-Year UG Degree (Honours with Research).

UG Degree (Honours with Research) will be offered, subject to prior approval from HPU.

17. Option for Online Courses

To achieve the three cardinal principles of India's Education Policy: Access, Equity, and Quality and for the benefit of students, options will be given for students to earn credit by completing quality-assured online programmes offered on the Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM: SWAYAM: www.swayam.gov.in) or other online educational platforms approved by HPU as per the existing UGC regulations. Students may opt to earn credits from such courses up to **40 per cent** of the total requirements, including I/A/P/C or work-based Vocational courses. (For details, see HPU SWAYAM Policy)

18. Programme Structure

18.1 Semester

A semester comprises 90 working days, and the academic calendar is divided into two semesters.

Winter and Summer terms will be notified separately with a vacation schedule. I/A/P/C/or work-based vocational education, field-based learning, and training will be carried out during the winter and summer terms. Regular courses may also be offered during the winter or summer terms in a fast-track mode, enabling students to complete additional coursework and reduce backlogs. Arrangements may be made for courses to be offered in the winter/or summer terms, depending on the availability of faculty and the number of students.

18.2. Credit Hours

The workload relating to a course is measured in terms of credit hours. A credit is a unit by which the coursework is measured. It determines the number of hours of instruction required per week over the duration of a semester (minimum of 15 weeks). Each course may have only a lecture component, a lecture and tutorial component, a lecture and practicum component, a lecture, tutorial, and practicum component or only a practicum component.

For example:

A three-credit lecture course in a semester consists of 3 one-hour lectures per week, with each one-hour lecture course being counted as one credit. In a 15-week semester, a three-credit lecture course is equivalent to 45 hours (3 hours per week × 15 weeks) of teaching.

One credit for tutorial work means one hour of engagement per week. In a 15-week semester, a one-credit tutorial in a course is equivalent to 15 hours of engagement per week.

A one-credit course in practicum or lab work, community engagement and services, and field work, completed in a semester, requires two hours of engagement per week. In a 15-week semester, a one-credit practicum in a course is equivalent to 30 hours of engagement.

A one-credit course, such as Seminar, Internship, Studio activities, or Field practice/projects, or Community engagement and service, requires two hours of engagement per week. Accordingly, in a 15-week semester, one credit in these courses is equivalent to 30 hours of engagement.

A one-credit course of Experiential Learning (field visits, industrial visits, etc.) means three hours of engagement per week. Accordingly, in a 15-week semester, one credit in these courses is equivalent to 45 hours of engagement.

A course can have a combination of lecture credits, tutorial credits, and practicum credits.

For example:

A 4-credit course, with three credits assigned for lectures and one credit for practicum, shall consist of three 1-hour lectures per week and one 2-hour duration field-based learning/project or lab work, or workshop activity per week. In a 15-week semester, a 4-credit course is equivalent to 45 hours of lectures and 30 hours of practicum.

Similarly, a 4-credit course with 3 credits assigned for lectures and one credit for tutorial shall have three 1-hour lectures per week and one 1-hour tutorial per week. In a 15-week semester, a 4-credit course is equivalent to 45 hours of lectures and 15 hours of tutorials.

18.3 Course Components

The courses will have a combination of various teaching methods as required. The methods may comprise the following:

- i. **Lecture courses:** Courses involving lectures relating to a field or discipline by an expert or qualified personnel in a field of learning, work/vocation, or professional practice.
- ii. **Tutorial courses:** Courses involving problem-solving and discussions relating to a field or discipline under the guidance of qualified personnel in a field of learning, work/vocation, or professional practice.
- iii. **Practicum or Laboratory work:** A course requiring students to participate in a project or practical or lab activity that applies previously learned/studied principles/theory related to the chosen field of learning, work/vocation, or professional practice under the supervision of an expert or qualified individual in the field of learning, work/vocation or professional practice.
- iv. **Seminar:** A course requiring students to participate in structured discussions/conversations or debate focused on assigned tasks/readings, current or historical events, or shared experiences guided or led by an expert or qualified personnel in a field of learning, work/vocation, or professional practice.
- v. **Internship:** A course requiring students to participate in a professional activity or work experience, or cooperative education activity with an entity external to the education institution, normally under the supervision of an expert of the given external entity. A key aspect of the internship is induction into actual work situations. Internships involve working with local industry, government, or private organisations, as well as business organisations, artists, craftspeople, and similar entities, to provide opportunities for students to engage in on-site experiential learning actively.
- vi. **Studio activities involve students engaging in creative or artistic pursuits:** Every student is engaged in performing a creative activity to obtain a specific outcome. Studio-based activities involve visual– or aesthetic-focused experiential work.
- vii. **Field practice/projects:** Courses requiring students to participate in field-based learning/projects generally under the supervision of an expert of the given external entity.
- viii. **Community engagement and service:** Course requiring students to participate in field-based learning/projects generally under the supervision of an expert of the given external entity. The curricular component of 'community engagement and service' would expose students to socio-economic issues in society, allowing theoretical learning to be supplemented by real-life experiences and generating solutions to actual problems.

18.4 Curricular Components

The UG curriculum consists of the following components:

i. Major Stream Courses

These are the disciplines or subjects of primary focus that provide students with the opportunity to pursue in-depth study of a particular discipline or subject, and the degree will be awarded in that discipline. Students should secure at least **50% of the total credits** in the major discipline. All major courses will be of **4 credits** each.

ii. Minor Stream Courses

Minor courses help students gain a broader understanding beyond the major disciplines. Students will have the option to choose other disciplinary/interdisciplinary courses and skill-based courses relating to a chosen vocational education programme as a minor. Students who take the prescribed number of courses in a discipline or interdisciplinary area of study other than the chosen major will qualify for a minor in that discipline or the chosen multidisciplinary area of study. All minor courses will also be of **4 credits** each.

iii. Multidisciplinary Courses

All students are required to undergo three introductory-level courses relating to any of the following broad disciplines. These courses are intended to broaden the intellectual experience and form part of liberal arts and science education. Students may be encouraged to choose courses that they have not taken at the higher secondary level under this category. Various departments will offer Multidisciplinary Courses. This must be distinct from the core discipline/subject. All courses under the multidisciplinary category will be **3 credits** each.

Natural and Physical Sciences: Students can choose from introductory courses in various disciplines, including Natural Science, such as Biology, Botany, Zoology, Biotechnology, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Physics, Biophysics, Astronomy, and Astrophysics, as well as Earth and Environmental Sciences.

Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Applications: Courses under this category will enable students to use and apply tools and techniques in their major and minor disciplines. The course may include training in programming software, such as Python, and applications software, including STATA, SPSS, and Tally. Introductory courses in this category will be beneficial for students of science and social science, particularly in data analysis and the application of quantitative tools.

Library, Information and Media Sciences: Courses from this category will help the students to understand the recent developments in information and media science (journalism, mass media, and communication).

Commerce and Management: Courses include business management, accountancy, finance, financial institutions, fintech, and more.

Humanities and Social Sciences: The courses related to Social Sciences, for example, Anthropology, Communication and Media, Economics, History, Linguistics, Political Science, Psychology, Social Work, and Sociology, will enable students to understand individuals and their social behaviour, society, and nation. The courses under humanities include, for example, Archaeology, History,

Comparative Literature, Arts & Creative expressions, Creative Writing and Literature, language(s), Philosophy, etc. and interdisciplinary courses relating to humanities. The list of courses, which can include interdisciplinary subjects such as Cognitive Science, Environmental Science, Gender Studies, Global Environment and Health, International Relations, Political Economy and Development, Sustainable Development, and Women's and Gender Studies, will help understand the complexities of society.

iv. Ability Enhancement Courses (Language and Communication Skill Courses)

Students are required to achieve competency in Modern Indian Language (MIL) and in the English language, with special emphasis on language and communication skills. The courses aim to enable students to acquire and demonstrate the core linguistic skills, including critical reading and expository and academic writing skills, which help them articulate their arguments and present their thinking clearly and coherently, and recognise the importance of language as a mediator of knowledge and identity. They would also enable students to become acquainted with the cultural and intellectual heritage of the chosen MIL and the English language, as well as to gain a reflective understanding of the structure and complexity of the language/literature related to both the MIL and the English language. The courses will also emphasise the development and enhancement of skills such as communication and the ability to participate in/conduct discussions and debates. The courses under this category will be assigned **2 credits** each

v. Skill Enhancement Courses

These courses are designed to impart practical skills, hands-on training, and soft skills to enhance the employability of students. Courses will be designed according to the students' needs and available institutional resources. Each of the Skill Enhancement courses will be assigned **3 credits**.

vi. Value-Addition Courses

These are courses common to all UG students. All UG students are required to take the following courses under the category of value-added courses. Each course under this category will be of **2 credits**.

Universal Human Values: This introductory level course aims at helping the students to become more aware of themselves and their surroundings (family, society and nature). The course is also expected to help the students become more responsible in life and in handling problems with sustainable solutions while keeping human relationships and human nature in mind.

Understanding India: The course aims to enable students to acquire and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of contemporary India, including its historical perspective, the basic framework of national development goals and policies, and constitutional obligations, with special emphasis on constitutional values and fundamental rights and duties. The course would also focus on developing an understanding among student-teachers of Indian knowledge systems, the Indian education system, and the roles and obligations of teachers to the nation in general and to the school/community/society. The course will attempt to deepen

knowledge about and understanding of India's freedom struggle and of the values and ideals that it represented to develop an appreciation of the contributions made by people of all sections and regions of the country, and help learners understand and cherish the values enshrined in the Indian Constitution and to prepare them for their roles and responsibilities as effective citizens of a democratic society.

Environmental Science / Education: The course seeks to equip students with the ability to apply the acquired knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values required to take appropriate actions for mitigating the effects of environmental degradation, climate change, and pollution, effective waste management, conservation of biological diversity, management of biological resources, forest and wildlife conservation, and sustainable development and living. The course will also deepen the knowledge and understanding of India's environment in its totality, its interactive processes, and its effects on the future quality of people's lives.

Digital and Technological Solutions: Courses in cutting-edge areas that are fast gaining prominence, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), 3-D machining, big data analysis, machine learning, drone technologies, and Deep learning with critical applications to health, environment, and sustainable living that will be woven into undergraduate education for enhancing the employability of the youth.

Health & Wellness, Yoga Education, Sports, and Fitness: Course components related to health and wellness aim to promote an optimal state of physical, emotional, intellectual, social, spiritual, and environmental well-being in a person. Sports and fitness activities will be organised outside the regular institutional working hours. Yoga education would focus on preparing the students physically and mentally for the integration of their physical, mental, and spiritual faculties, and equipping them with basic knowledge about their personality, maintaining self-discipline and self-control, to learn to handle themselves well in all life situations. The focus of sports and fitness components of the courses will be on the improvement of physical fitness, including the improvement of various components of physical and skills-related fitness like strength, speed, coordination, endurance, and flexibility; acquisition of sports skills, including motor skills, as well as basic movement skills relevant to a particular sport; improvement of tactical abilities; and improvement of mental abilities.

vii. Internship/Apprenticeship/Field Project

A key aspect of the new NEP UG programme is induction into actual work situations or community experience. Each of the courses under the categories of Internship/Apprenticeship/Field Project, Community Engagement / Field-based Learning / Minor Project will be **4 credits**.

Internship/Apprenticeship: All students will undergo internships/apprenticeships in a firm, industry, or organisation or training in labs with faculty and researchers in their own or other HEIs/research institutions during the summer term. Students will be provided with opportunities for internships with local industry, business organisations, health and allied areas, local governments (such as panchayats, municipalities), Parliament or elected representatives, media organisations, artists, crafts persons, and a wide variety of organisations so that students may actively

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engage with the practical side of their learning and, as a by-product, further improve their employability. Students who wish to exit after the first two semesters will undergo a 4-credit work-based learning/internship during the summer term to obtain a UG Certificate.

Community Engagement and Service: The curricular component of 'Community Engagement and Service' aims to expose students to socio-economic issues in society, thereby supplementing theoretical learning with real-life experiences to generate solutions to pressing problems. This can be part of the activity to be undertaken during the summer term or a component of a major or minor course, depending on the major/minor discipline.

Field-based learning/minor project: The field-based learning/minor project aims to provide students with opportunities to understand the diverse socio-economic contexts. It will strive to provide students with exposure to development-related issues in both rural and urban settings. It will provide students with opportunities to observe situations in both rural and urban contexts, and to study actual field situations related to socio-economic development. Students will be given opportunities to gain a first-hand understanding of the policies, regulations, organisational structures, processes, and programmes that guide the development process. They would have the chance to gain an understanding of the complex socio-economic problems in the community and innovative practices required to generate solutions to the identified problems. This may be a project for the summer term or a part of a major or minor course, depending on the subject of study.

viii. **Research Project/Dissertation**

Students choosing a 4-Year Bachelor's degree (Honours with Research) are required to take research projects/dissertations under the guidance of a faculty member. Students are expected to complete the Research Project/Dissertation in either the seventh or eighth semester. The research outcomes of their project work may be published in peer-reviewed journals, presented at conferences/seminars, or patented. Research Project / Dissertation will be of **12 credits (4 in VII sem and 8 in VIII Sem)**.

ix. **Other Activities**

This component will include participation in activities related to the National Service Scheme (NSS), National Cadet Corps (NCC), adult education/literacy initiatives, mentoring school students and other similar activities. Students may be encouraged to enrol in these activities regardless of whether they are credit-bearing or non-credit-bearing.

Note: *All Value Addition Courses, I/A/P/C courses, and Work-based Vocational Courses must be taught by all teachers, regardless of their disciplinary background, depending on workload.*

18.5 Credit Requirements

The minimum credit requirements of each category of courses for 3-Year and 4-Year Bachelor's Programmes (Honours or Honours with Research) are given in Table 1.

Table 15.5.1: Minimum Credit Requirements to Award Degree under Each Category as per UGC

Sr. No.	Category of Courses	Minimum Credit Requirements	
		3-Year UG	4-Year UG
1	Major (Core)	60	80
2	Minor Stream	24	32*
3	Multidisciplinary	9	9
4	Ability Enhancement Courses (AEC)	8	8
5	Skill Enhancement Courses (SEC)	9	9
6	Value Added Courses common for all UG	6-8	6-8
7	Internship/Apprenticeship/Field Project	2-4	2-4
8	Research Project/Dissertation	-	12
	Total	120	160

* Refers to the UG programme with a single Major and Minor

Note: Honours students not undertaking research will do three courses for **12 credits** instead of the Research Project/Dissertation.

19. Level of Courses

Courses shall be coded based on the learning outcomes, level of difficulty, and academic rigour. The coding of courses will be as follows:

0–99: Pre-requisite courses required to undertake an introductory course, which will be a pass or fail course with no credits. It will replace the existing informal method of offering bridge courses, which are currently conducted in some colleges and universities.

100–199: Foundation or introductory courses that are intended for students to gain an understanding and basic knowledge about the subjects and help decide the subject or discipline of interest. These courses may also be prerequisites for courses in the major subjects.

200–299: Intermediate-level courses, including subject-specific courses, intended to meet the credit requirements for minor or major areas of learning. These courses can be part of a major and can be prerequisite courses for advanced-level major courses.

300–399: Higher-level courses which are required for majoring in a disciplinary/interdisciplinary area of study for the award of a degree.

400–499: Advanced courses which would include lecture courses with practicum, seminar-based courses, term papers, research methodology, advanced laboratory experiments/software training, research projects, hands-on training, internship/apprenticeship projects at the undergraduate level or First Year Post-graduate theoretical and practical courses.

20. Semester-wise Programme Components

UGC has prepared a model for the semester-wise distribution of different categories of courses. Based on this model, the UG Programme Structure is framed, and the semester-wise course and credit distribution of UG Programmes are presented in the Tables (28) below.

Semesters 1 & 2: Students will choose 3 discipline-specific (one stream) core courses (A, B, and C). Students opting for a Single Core Discipline (Major) have to select a Major and Minor out of the 3 subjects studied in the 1st and 2nd semesters at the end of the 2nd semester. Another discipline's DSC/course studied in the first two semesters will be treated as a minor. Additionally, these students will also take courses of their interest from Multidisciplinary, Ability Enhancement, Skill Enhancement, and Value-Addition categories. Students will also be placed in an internship/apprenticeship/field project, or community engagement and service program, as well as participate in field-based learning / minor projects.

All the major and minor courses for the 1st & 2nd semesters will be 100-level courses.

Additional Seats: An additional 10% of the sanctioned strength may be created to accommodate requests for a change of major. Any unfilled or vacant seats may be filled with those seeking a change of Major. Preference will be given to those with the highest CGPA and no areas of concern in the first year/semester.

Semesters 3 & 4: Students will select courses of interest in their major and minor to build a career of interest. Students opting for the stream-based Multidisciplinary/Interdisciplinary UG programme will have to declare one of the three subjects as a Minor in the 3rd semester. The other 02 subjects will remain their Core (Major) subjects. **All students will study the DSE of core courses, excluding the Minor. Students studying a Multidisciplinary/Interdisciplinary 3-year degree are strongly advised to choose one subject for all the DSEs in which they wish to do Honours or Honours with Research in 4th Year, as they must study at least 5 DSEs of that discipline in the 2nd and 3rd years.** They will also pursue courses from multidisciplinary, ability enhancement, skill enhancement, and value-addition categories.

The major courses of the 3rd & 4th semesters may be 200-level courses, while the level of minor courses may be 200 & above.

Semesters 5 & 6: Students will undertake higher-level courses and related courses during the 5th & 6th semesters to gain in-depth knowledge in the core courses, including DSEs (2 each) in the 5th & 6th semesters, along with an ability enhancement course.

The major courses for the 5th & 6th semesters may be 300 level, and the level of minor courses may be 200 & above.

Semesters 7 & 8: During the fourth and final year, students will undertake advanced-level courses to earn a 4-year undergraduate degree. Students opting for a Bachelor's Degree (Honours with Research) will undertake a Research Project or Dissertation. Students may be permitted to conduct a research project or dissertation in another department of the same institution or at another institution, provided the required facilities are available. The major courses of the 7th & 8th semesters may be 400-level, while the level of courses for minors may be 300-level and above.

The 7th-semester courses for students pursuing a Bachelor's Degree (Honours with Research) will focus on research methodology and advanced courses in both theoretical and applied areas.

As part of the research methodology, students are also expected to undertake preparatory activities, such as writing research proposals, conducting laboratory experiments, collecting data, or engaging in fieldwork, for their research project or dissertation. The 8th semester will be devoted to report writing and the presentation of Research Projects/Dissertations, along with major courses that may be seminar-based, featuring presentations and discussions.

For students opting for a Bachelor's Degree (Honours), the 7th & 8th-semester courses for both major and minor will be advanced-level courses in theory and applied areas, as well as seminar presentations. Honours students not undertaking research will take five advanced-level courses in the 8th semester.

21. Entry and Exit Options

As permissible under UGC Guidelines for Multiple Entry and Exit in Academic Programmes offered in Higher Education Institutions, students will be allowed to enter/re-enter in the odd semesters and after even semesters, provided that they fulfil the minimum requirements for entry and exit.

22. Attendance

A student shall be eligible to appear in the end-semester examination only if he/she has a minimum of 75% attendance. The terms and rules governing condoning can be found in the Examination Section of the Ordinance.

23. Examination & Grading

The examination and grading modalities of HPU-UGP will be in accordance with HPU's Examination and Grading Ordinance/Notifications.

24. Repeating or Options for Other Courses

- i. If a student fails a particular course, they shall be promoted to the next semester and shall repeat the course with the ensuing examinations.
- ii. Repetition of course (s) shall be only for the end-of-semester examinations.
- iii. In place of the failed courses, students may opt for the following in consultation with the parent department:
 - Choose other courses with the same credits offered through CDOE.
 - Choose online/CDOE courses approved by HPU as per existing UGC regulations, having the same credits.

25. Promotion

Students shall be allowed to proceed from one semester to the next in accordance with HPU's Examination and Grading Ordinance/Notifications.

However, for a student to progress to the 4th year of the undergraduate programme, they must clear all the courses from the previous three years.

26. Departmental Coordinators

The students will require proper guidance in selecting courses of their choice that align with the curriculum requirements. Coordinator(s) may be appointed at Colleges/CDOE/HPU-DES level to guide students in choosing courses, ensuring the timely completion of undergraduate Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programmes

programmes. A template for monitoring students' progress can be developed to determine whether students are enrolled in the correct courses for a particular semester.

27. Evaluation Committee for Multiple Entry and Exit

While this HPU-UGP provides options for multiple entry and exit for HPU students, students from other HEIs who are willing to join HPU will also be allowed entry at an appropriate level. The NAD Cell of HPU will evaluate the multiple entry and exit points to determine the eligibility of students who desire to join the University from other HEIs with lateral entry.

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28.

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Course & Academic Level	Sem-ester	Discipline Specific Courses-Core Subject -A&B (DSC) Credits-4	Discipline Specific Elective (DSE) Credits-4	Minor Courses Subject - C (MC) Credits-4	Multidisciplinary courses (MDC) Credits-3	Skill Enhancement courses (SEC) Credits-3	Ability Enhancement courses (AEC) Credits-2	Internship/ Apprenticeship/Project/Community Outreach (I/A/P/C) Credits-4	Value Addition courses (VAC) Credits-2	Total Credits
100-199 Introductory/Foundation Level Courses	I	<u>Subject-A</u> (DSC A1) <u>Subject-B</u> (DSC B1)		<u>Subject-C</u> (MC 1)	MDC 1	SEC 1	AEC 1			20
	II	<u>Subject-A</u> (DSC A2) <u>Subject-B</u> (DSC B2)		<u>Subject-C</u> (MC 2)	MDC 2	SEC 2		I/A/P/C-1	VAC 1	24
Level 4.5	Exit 1	Student on exit will be awarded Undergraduate Certificate (in the Field of Study) after securing 44 credits in Semester I and II.								44
200-299 Intermediate Level Courses	III	DSC A3 DSC B3 DSC A3/B3 DSC3(i)		MC 3	MDC 3	SEC3	AEC 2		VAC 2	22
	IV	DSC A4 DSC B4 DSCA4/B4 DSC 4(i)	DSE1A/B	MC 4			AEC 3		VAC 3	20
Level 5	Exit 2	Student on exit will be awarded Undergraduate Diploma (in the Field of Study/Discipline) after securing 86 Credits on completion of Semester IV.								86
300-399 Higher Level Courses	V	DSC A5 DSC B5 DSC A5/B5 DSC5(i)	DSE2 A/B DSE3 A/B	MC 5			AEC 4			22
	VI	DSC A6 DSC B6 DSC A6/B6 DSC6(i) DSC6(ii)	DSE4 A/B DSE5 A/B	MC 6						20
Level 5.5	Exit 3	Student on exit will be awarded Bachelor of (in the Field of Study/Discipline) after securing 128 credits on completion of Semester VI.								128
400-499 Advanced Level Courses	VII	DSC 7 DSC 8	DSC 9 Research Methodology & Ethics		2 DSE OR 1 DSE and 1 MC		Dissertation instead of any one of the DSE	The Dissertation/ Academic Project will start in the VII Semester and the same will continue in the VIII Semester. However, the evaluation and assessment will be done in the VII Semester as well as in the VIII Semester.		20
	VIII	DSC 10 DSC 11			3 DSE OR 1 DSE and 2 MC OR 2 DSE and 1 MC		Dissertation instead of any 2 of DSEs			20
Level 6	Exit 4	Students will be awarded Bachelor's Degree (Hons. /Hons. with Research) in a relevant discipline on completion of VIII semesters with 168 credits.								168

*Courses in bold (III to VI semesters) refer to the Major programs.

28.1. Significant Notes

1. The prescribed credit weightage includes Lecture, Tutorial, and Practical components.
2. In the first semester, students will be offered three different subjects within the same stream: A, B, and C (Core and Minor are provided here for illustrative purposes only).
3. At the end of the second semester, each student may choose one of two programmes: the Multi-Disciplinary/Interdisciplinary or Single Core Discipline (Major) programme. The student choosing the latter will be required to give his/her Major and Minor at the end of the second semester. Such choices, including DSCs made at the end of the second semester, shall remain in effect until the VI semester.
4. Additional Seats: The Colleges may create 10% extra seats over and above the sanctioned strength to accommodate the request for a change of major. Any unfilled or vacant seats may be filled with those seeking a change of Major. Preference will be given to those with the highest CGPA and no arrears in the first year/semester.
5. The DSCs of another discipline for the first two semesters of students who opt for Major programmes will be treated as Minors.
6. A DSC offered in one discipline will be treated as a Minor by another. Students can choose Minor Courses from two different subjects, but must earn a minimum of 12 credits in each.
7. MDCs must be selected from a broad discipline/pool of MDCs other than Major and Minor subjects.
8. AEC/VAC/SEC-3 should be chosen from a pool of courses. Every discipline shall provide these courses, some of which will be offered discipline-specific, while the rest can be open to students of all other disciplines. However, the two SECs (SEC-1 & SEC-2) must be chosen from the discipline-specific (Core and Minor).
9. A maximum of two language courses can be opted for as Core and Minor. AECs should be in a language other than what is studied in DSCs/Minors.
10. I/A/P/C will be determined at the end of the first semester to enable students to carry out some I/A/P/C activities during winter vacation.
11. To pursue an Honour degree in the 4th year, students will have to choose only one discipline in both semesters, in which s/he have studied 6 DSCs and 5 DSEs in the first three years.
12. A student who secures 75% or more marks in aggregate till semester 6 (up to a 3-year degree) shall be eligible for a 4-year degree Honours with Research, provided HPU has approved the college to offer it.
13. One course per semester (DSC/Minor/MDC/SEC/etc) from a subject offered in two (or more) different programs (e.g. BCA and BSc/ BPA and BA/ BFA and BA/ Shastri and BA/etc) must be the same.
14. Students in the BA programmes can opt for only one DSC each from the Bachelor of Performing Arts (Dance, Music, Vocal & Instrument/Tabla/ etc.) and the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Painting/Applied Arts/Sculpture/ etc.).
15. Major and Minor shall be awarded on fulfilment of the following conditions: For Major, 64 credits in a 3-year & 84 credits in a 4-year UG programme in a single Major Discipline. For Minor 28 credits in 4-year UG programme in a single Minor Discipline
16. The Dissertation and Project will start in the VII semester. However, the evaluation and assessment will be conducted in both the VII and VIII semesters.

**As this scheme is being introduced for the first time, it is subject to modifications. Any changes applied in subsequent years after admission to the 1st Year will be retrospectively applicable.*

**Table 28.2: Semester-wise Course and Credit Distribution of UG Programme
Multidisciplinary/Interdisciplinary**

Semester	Course Categories	Credit
I	3 Core Courses: Subject A, Subject B & Subject C (4+4+4)	12
	1 Multidisciplinary Course	3
	1 Skill Enhancement Course	3
	1 Ability Enhancement Course	2
Total		20
II	3 Core Courses: Subject A, Subject B & Subject C (4+4+4)	12
	1 Multidisciplinary Course	3
	1 Skill Enhancement Course	3
	1 Value-Addition Course	2
	1 I/A/P/C/ or Vocation Course*	4
Total		24
Exit option with UG Certificate after securing 44 credits (*with 4 credits of I/A/P/C/or work-based vocational course offered during winter/summer term), along with entry option to second year or third semester in Multidisciplinary/Interdisciplinary		
III	2 Core Courses (Major): One each from two Core Disciplines (A or B or C) (say, A and B) (4 +4)	8
	1 Minor Course: (say C, as A and B both have selected as Core (Major))	4
	1 Multidisciplinary Course	3
	1 Skill Enhancement Course	3
	1 Ability Enhancement Course	2
	1 Value-Addition Course	2
Total		22
IV	2 Core Courses	8
	1 Minor Course	4
	1 Discipline-Specific Elective (Core discipline A or B)	4
	1 Ability Enhancement Course	2
	1 Value-Added Course	2
Total		20
Exit option with UG Diploma after securing 86 credits along with entry option to third year or fifth semester		
V	2 Core Courses (4 +4)	8
	1 Minor Course	4
	2 Discipline-Specific Electives (4+4)	8
	1 Ability Enhancement Course	2
Total		20
VI	Core Courses (4 +4)	8
	1 Minor Course	4
	2 Discipline-Specific Electives (4+4)	8
Total		20
Award of 3Year Bachelor's Degree after completion of 128 credits		
VII	3 Major Courses (4+4+4)	12