

Choice Based Credit System (CBCS)

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME
(Courses effective from Academic Year 2015-16)



SYLLABUS OF COURSES TO BE OFFERED Core Courses, Elective Courses & Ability Enhancement Courses

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Undergraduate Programme Secretariat

Preamble

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 from time to time to improve the higher education system and maintain minimum standards and quality across the Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) in India. The academic reforms recommended by the UGC in the recent past have led to overall improvement in the higher education system. However, due to lot of diversity in the system of higher education, there are multiple approaches followed by universities towards examination, evaluation and grading system. While the HEIs must have the flexibility and freedom in designing the examination and evaluation methods that best fits the curriculum, syllabi and teaching-learning methods, there is a need to devise a sensible system for awarding the grades based on the performance of students. Presently the performance of the students is reported using the conventional system of marks secured in the examinations or grades or both. The conversion from marks to letter grades and the letter grades used vary widely across the HEIs in the country. This creates difficulty for the academia and the employers to understand and infer the performance of the students graduating from different universities and colleges based on grades.

The grading system is considered to be better than the conventional marks system and hence it has been followed in the top institutions in India and abroad. So it is desirable to introduce uniform grading system. This will facilitate student mobility across institutions within and across countries and also enable potential employers to assess the performance of students. To bring in the desired uniformity, in grading system and method for computing the cumulative grade point average (CGPA) based on the performance of students in the examinations, the UGC has formulated these guidelines.

CHOICE BASED CREDIT SYSTEM (CBCS):

The CBCS provides an opportunity for the students to choose courses from the prescribed courses comprising core, elective/minor or skill based courses. The courses can be evaluated following the grading system, which is considered to be better than the conventional marks system. Therefore, it is necessary to introduce uniform grading system in the entire higher education in India. This will benefit the students to move across institutions within India to begin with and across countries. The uniform grading system will also enable potential employers in assessing the performance of the candidates. In order to bring uniformity in evaluation system and computation of the Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) based on student's performance in examinations, the UGC has formulated the guidelines to be followed.

Outline of Choice Based Credit System:

- 1. Core Course:** A course, which should compulsorily be studied by a candidate as a core requirement is termed as a Core course.
- 2. Elective Course:** Generally a course which can be chosen from a pool of courses and which may be very specific or specialized or advanced or supportive to the discipline/ subject of study or which provides an extended scope or which enables an exposure to some other discipline/subject/domain or nurtures the candidate's proficiency/skill is called an Elective Course.
 - 2.1 Discipline Specific Elective (DSE) Course:** Elective courses may be offered by the main discipline/subject of study is referred to as Discipline Specific Elective. The University/Institute may also offer discipline related Elective courses of interdisciplinary nature (to be offered by main discipline/subject of study).
 - 2.2 Dissertation/Project:** An elective course designed to acquire special/advanced knowledge, such as supplement study/support study to a project work, and a candidate studies such a course on his own with an advisory support by a teacher/faculty member is called dissertation/project.
 - 2.3 Generic Elective (GE) Course:** An elective course chosen generally from an unrelated discipline/subject, with an intention to seek exposure is called a Generic Elective.

P.S.: A core course offered in a discipline/subject may be treated as an elective by other discipline/subject and vice versa and such electives may also be referred to as Generic Elective.
- 3. Ability Enhancement Courses (AEC)/Competency Improvement Courses/Skill Development Courses/Foundation Course:** The Ability Enhancement (AE) Courses may be of two kinds: AE Compulsory Course (AECC) and AE Elective Course (AEEC). "AECC" courses are the courses based upon the content that leads to Knowledge enhancement. They ((i) Environmental Science, (ii) English/MIL Communication) are mandatory for all disciplines. AEEC courses are value-based and/or skill-based and are aimed at providing hands-on-training, competencies, skills, etc.
 - 3.1 AE Compulsory Course (AECC):** Environmental Science, English Communication/MIL Communication.
 - 3.2 AE Elective Course (AEEC):** These courses may be chosen from a pool of courses designed to provide value-based and/or skill-based instruction.

Project work/Dissertation is considered as a special course involving application of knowledge in solving / analyzing /exploring a real life situation / difficult problem. A Project/Dissertation work would be of 6 credits. A Project/Dissertation work may be given in lieu of a discipline specific elective paper.

B.A. Economics

Semester I	Semester II
Core Economics I: Principles of Microeconomics–I	Core Economics II: Principles of Microeconomics–II
Semester III	Semester IV
Core Economics III: Principles of Macroeconomics–I	Core Economics IV: Principles of Macroeconomics–II
Semester V	Semester VI
Discipline Specific Elective I One of the following: i. DSE 1: Economic Development and Policy in India–I ii. DSE 2: Money and Banking iii. DSE 3: Environmental Economics	Discipline Specific Elective II One of the following: iv. DSE 3: Economic Development and Policy in India–II v. DSE 4: Economic History of India 1857-1947 vi. Public Finance

Core Economics I: Principles of Microeconomics–I

Course Description

This course intends to expose the student to the basic principles in Microeconomic Theory and illustrate with applications.

Course Outline

1. Introduction

- a. Problem of scarcity and choice: scarcity, choice and opportunity cost; production possibility frontier; economic systems.
- b. Demand and supply: law of demand, determinants of demand, shifts of demand versus movements along a demand curve, market demand, law of supply, determinants of supply, shifts of supply versus movements along a supply curve, market supply, market equilibrium.
- c. Applications of demand and supply: price rationing, price floors, consumer surplus, producer surplus.
- d. Elasticity: price elasticity of demand, calculating elasticity, determinants of price elasticity, other elasticities.

2. Consumer Theory

Budget constraint, concept of utility, diminishing marginal utility, Diamond-water paradox, income and substitution effects; consumer choice: indifference curves, derivation of demand curve from indifference curve and budget constraint.

3. Production and Costs

- a. Production: behaviour of profit maximising firms, production process, production functions, law of variable proportions, choice of technology, isoquant and isocost lines, cost minimizing equilibrium condition.
- b. Costs: costs in the short run, costs in the long run, revenue and profit maximizations, minimizing losses, short run industry supply curve, economies and diseconomies of scale, long run adjustments.

4. Perfect Competition

- a. Assumptions: theory of a firm under perfect competition, demand and revenue; equilibrium of the firm in the short run and long run; long run industry supply curve: increasing, decreasing and constant cost industries.
- b. Welfare: allocative efficiency under perfect competition.

Readings:

Case, Karl E. & Ray C. Fair, *Principles of Economics*, Pearson Education, Inc., 8th edition, 2007.

Core Economics II: Principles of Microeconomics–II

Course Description

This is a sequel to Principles of Microeconomics–I covered in the first semester. The objective of the course is the same as in Principles of Microeconomics I.

Course Outline

1. Market Structures

a. Theory of a Monopoly Firm

Concept of imperfect competition; short run and long run price and output decisions of a monopoly firm; concept of a supply curve under monopoly; comparison of perfect competition and monopoly, social cost of monopoly, price discrimination; remedies for monopoly: Antitrust laws, natural monopoly.

b. Imperfect Competition

Monopolistic competition: Assumptions, SR & LR price and output determinations under monopolistic competition, economic efficiency and resource allocation; oligopoly: assumptions, oligopoly models, game theory, contestable markets, role of government.

2. Consumer and Producer Theory

a. Consumer and Producer Theory in Action

Externalities, marginal cost pricing, internalising externalities, public goods; imperfect information: adverse selection, moral hazard, social choice, government inefficiency.

b. Markets and Market Failure

Market adjustment to changes in demand, efficiency of perfect competition; sources of market failure: imperfect markets, public goods, externalities, imperfect information; evaluating the market mechanism.

3. Income Distribution and Factor pricing

Input markets: demand for inputs; labour markets, land markets, profit maximisation condition in input markets, input demand curves, distribution of Income.

4. International Trade

Absolute advantage, comparative advantage, terms of trade, sources of comparative advantage, trade barriers, free trade/ protectionism.

Readings:

Case, Karl E. & Ray C. Fair, *Principles of Economics*, Pearson Education, Inc., 8th edition, 2007.

Core Economics III: Principles of Macroeconomics–I

Course Description

This course introduces students to the basic concepts in Macroeconomics. Macroeconomics deals with the aggregate economy. In this course the students are introduced to the definition, measurement of the macroeconomic variables like GDP, consumption, savings, investment and balance of payments. The course also discusses various theories of determining GDP in the short run.

Course Outline

1. Introduction

What is macroeconomics? Macroeconomic issues in an economy.

2. National Income Accounting

Concepts of GDP and National Income; measurement of national income and related aggregates; nominal and real income; limitations of the GDP concept.

3. Determination of GDP

Actual and potential GDP; aggregate expenditure; consumption function; investment function; equilibrium GDP; concepts of MPS, APS, MPC, APC; autonomous expenditure; Concept of multiplier.

4. National Income Determination in an Open Economy with Government

Fiscal Policy: impact of changes in government expenditure and taxes; net exports function; net exports and equilibrium national income.

5. Money in a Modern Economy

Concept of money in a modern economy; monetary aggregates; demand for money; quantity theory of money; liquidity preference and rate of interest; money supply and credit creation; monetary policy.

Readings:

1. Case, Karl E. & Ray C. Fair, *Principles of Economics*, Pearson Education, Inc., 8th edition, 2007.
2. Sikdar, Shoumyen, *Principles of Macroeconomics*, 2nd Edition, Oxford University Press, India

Core Economics IV: Principles of Macroeconomics–II

Course Description

This is a sequel to Principles of Macroeconomics–I. It analyses various theories of determination of National Income in greater detail. It also introduces students to concept of inflation, its relationship with unemployment and some basic concepts in an open economy.

Course Outline

1. IS-LM Analysis

Derivations of the IS and LM functions; IS-LM and aggregate demand; shifts in the AD curve.

2. GDP and Price Level in Short Run and Long Run

Aggregate demand and aggregate supply; multiplier Analysis with AD curve and changes in price levels; aggregate supply in the SR and LR.

3. Inflation and Unemployment

Concept of inflation; determinants of inflation; relationship between inflation and unemployment: Phillips Curve in short run and long run.

4. Balance of Payments and Exchange Rate

Balance of payments: current account and capital account; market for foreign exchange; determination of exchange rate.

Readings:

1. Case, Karl E. & Ray C. Fair, *Principles of Economics*, Pearson Education, Inc., 8th edition, 2007.
2. Sikdar, Shoumyen, *Principles of Macroeconomics*, 2nd Edition, Oxford University Press, India

Discipline Specific Elective I

One of the following:

i. DSE 1: Economic Development and Policy in India-I

Course Description

This course reviews major trends in aggregate economic indicators in India and places these against the backdrop of major policy debates in India in the post- Independence period.

Course Outline

1. Issues in Growth, Development and Sustainability

2. Factors in Development

Capital formation (Physical and Human); technology; institutions.

3. Population and Economic Development

Demographic trends; urbanisation.

4. Employment

Occupational structure in the organised and the unorganised sectors; open-, under- and disguised unemployment (rural and urban); employment schemes and their impact.

5. Indian Development Experience

Critical evaluation of growth, inequality, poverty and competitiveness, pre and post reforms era; savings and investment; mobilisation of internal and external finance; monetary and fiscal policies; centre-state financial relations.

Readings:

1. Michael P Todaro and Stephen Smith. *Economic Development*, Pearson, 11th edition (2011).
2. Uma Kapila, *Indian Economy since Independence*, Academic Foundation, 19th edition (2009).
3. United Nations Development Programme, *Human Development Report*

2010, Palgrave Macmillan (2010).

4. Government of India, *Economic Survey*
(latest)
5. Government of India, *Five Year Plan*
(latest)
6. Government of India, *Finance Commission Report*
(latest)

ii. DSE 2: Money and Banking:

Course Description

This course exposes students to the theory and functioning of the monetary and financial sectors of the economy. It highlights the organization, structure and role of financial markets and institutions. It also discusses interest rates, monetary management and instruments of monetary control. Financial and banking sector reforms and monetary policy with special reference to India are also covered.

Course Outline

1. Money

Concept, functions, measurement; theories of money supply determination.

2. Financial Institutions, Markets, Instruments and Financial Innovations

a. Role of financial markets and institutions; problem of asymmetric information – adverse selection and moral hazard; financial crises.

b. Money and capital markets: organization, structure and reforms in India; role of financial derivatives and other innovations.

3. Interest Rates

Determination; sources of interest rate differentials; theories of term structure of interest rates; interest rates in India.

4. Banking System

a. Balance sheet and portfolio management.

b. Indian banking system: Changing role and structure; banking sector reforms.

5. Central Banking and Monetary Policy

Functions, balance sheet; goals, targets, indicators and instruments of monetary control; monetary management in an open economy; current monetary policy of India.

Readings

1. F. S. Mishkin and S. G. Eakins, *Financial Markets and Institutions*, Pearson Education, 6th edition, 2009.
2. F. J. Fabozzi, F. Modigliani, F. J. Jones, M. G. Ferri, *Foundations of Financial Markets and Institutions*, Pearson Education, 3rd edition, 2009.
3. L. M. Bhole and J. Mahukud, *Financial Institutions and Markets*, Tata McGraw Hill, 5th edition, 2011.
4. M. Y. Khan, *Indian Financial System*, Tata McGraw Hill, 7th edition, 2011.
5. Various latest issues of R.B.I. Bulletins, Annual Reports, Reports on Currency and Finance and Reports of the Working Group, IMF Staff Papers.

iii. **DSE 3: Environmental Economics:**

Course Description

This course introduces students to concepts, methods and policy options in managing the environment using tools of economic analysis. This course should be accessible to anyone with an analytical mind and familiarity with basic concepts of economics. Since several environmental problems are caused by economic activity (for instance, carbon emissions, over-harvesting of renewable resources and air and water pollution as a by-product of industrial activity), this course examines different approaches to adjusting behaviour through economic institutions such as markets and incentives as well as through regulation, etc. It also addresses the economic implications of environmental policies through practical applications of methods for valuation of environmental goods and services and quantification of environmental damages. Conversely, the impact of economic growth on the environment is also addressed under the rubric of sustainable development. Environmental problems and issues from the Indian and international context (especially global warming) are used to illustrate the concepts and methods presented in the course. The course will be useful for students aiming towards careers in the government sector, policy analysis, business, journalism and international organisations.

Course Outline

1. Introduction

Key environmental issues and problems, economic way of thinking about these problems, basic concepts from economics; Pareto optimality and market failure in the presence of externalities; property rights and other approaches.

2. The Design and Implementation of Environmental Policy

Overview, Pigouvian taxes and effluent fees, tradable permits, implementation of environmental policies in India and international experience; transboundary environmental problems; economics of climate change.

3. Environmental Valuation Methods and Applications

Valuation of non-market goods and services--theory and practice; measurement methods; cost-benefit analysis of environmental policies and regulations.

4. Sustainable Development

Concepts; measurement; perspectives from Indian experience

Readings

1. Roger Perman, Yue Ma, Michael Common, David Maddison and James McGilvray, "*Natural Resource and Environmental Economics*", Pearson Education/Addison

- Wesley, 4th edition, 2011.
2. Charles Kolstad, “*Intermediate Environmental Economics*”, Oxford University Press, 2nd edition, 2010.
 3. Robert N. Stavins (ed.), “*Economics of the Environment: Selected Readings*”, W.W. Norton, 6th edition, 2012.
 4. Robert Solow , “An Almost Practical Step toward Sustainability,” Resources for the Future 40th anniversary lecture,1992.
 5. Kenneth Arrow et al. , “Are We Consuming Too Much?” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 18(3): 147-172, 2004.
 6. IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), Fifth Assessment Report (forthcoming 2014).

Discipline Specific Elective II

One of the following:

iv. DSE 4: Economic Development and Policy in India–II

Course Description

Building on the more aggregative analysis of trends in the Indian Economy offered in Economic Development and Policy–I, this course examines sector-specific trends in key indicators and their implications in the post-Independence period.

Course Outline

1. Agriculture: Policies and Performance

Production and productivity; credit; labour; markets and pricing; land reforms; regional variations.

2. Industry: Policies and Performance

Production trends; small scale industries; public sector; foreign investment.

3. Foreign Trade: Trends and Policies

Balance of trade and balance of payments; India and the World Trade Organisation.

Readings:

1. Uma Kapila, *Indian Economy since Independence*, Academic Foundation, 19th edition (2009).
2. Government of India, *Economic Survey* (latest)
3. Government of India, *Five Year Plan* (latest)

v. **DSE 5: Economic History of India 1857-1947**

Course Description

This course analyses key aspects of Indian economic development during the second half of British colonial rule. In doing so, it investigates the place of the Indian economy in the wider colonial context, and the mechanisms that linked economic development in India to the compulsions of colonial rule. This course links directly to the course on India's economic development after independence in 1947.

Course Outline

1. Introduction: Colonial India: Background and Introduction

Overview of colonial economy.

2. Macro Trends

National Income; population; occupational structure.

3. Agriculture

Agrarian structure and land relations; agricultural markets and institutions – credit, commerce and technology; trends in performance and productivity; famines.

4. Railways and Industry

Railways; the de-industrialisation debate; evolution of entrepreneurial and industrial structure; nature of industrialisation in the interwar period; constraints to industrial breakthrough; labor relations.

5. Economy and State in the Imperial Context

The imperial priorities and the Indian economy; drain of wealth; international trade, capital flows and the colonial economy – changes and continuities; government and fiscal policy.

Readings:

1. Lakshmi Subramanian, “*History of India 1707-1857*”, Orient Blackswan, 2010, Chapter 4.
2. Sumit Guha, 1991, ‘Mortality decline in early 20th century India’, *Indian Economic and Social History Review (IESHR)*, pp 371-74 and 385-87.

3. Tirthankar Roy, *The Economic History of India 1857-1947*, Oxford University Press, 3rd edition, 2011.
4. J. Krishnamurty, *Occupational Structure*, Dharma Kumar (editor), The Cambridge Economic History of India, Vol. II, (henceforth referred to as CEHI), 2005, Chapter 6.
5. Irfan Habib, *Indian Economy 1858-1914*, A People's History of India, Vol.28, Tulika, 2006.
6. Ira Klein, 1984, -When Rains Fail: Famine relief and mortality in British India, *IESHR* 21.
7. Jean Dreze, *Famine Prevention in India in Dreze and Sen (eds.) Political Economy of Hunger*, WIDER Studies in Development Economics, 1990, pp.13-35.
8. John Hurd, *Railways*, CEHI, Chapter 8, pp.737-761.
9. Rajat Ray (ed.), *Entrepreneurship and Industry in India*, 1994.
10. AK Bagchi, -Deindustrialization in India in the nineteenth century: Some theoretical implications, *Journal of Development Studies*, 1976.
11. MD Morris, *Emergence of an Industrial Labour Force in India*, OUP 1965, Chapter 11, Summary and Conclusions.
12. K.N. Chaudhuri, *Foreign Trade and Balance of Payments*, CEHI, Chapter 10.
13. B.R. Tomlison, 1975, *India and the British Empire 1880-1935*, IESHR, Vol.XII.
14. Dharma Kumar, *The Fiscal System*, CEHI, Chapter 12.
15. Basudev Chatterjee, *Trade, Tariffs and Empire*, OUP 1992,

Epilogue. Background reading for students:

Irfan Habib, *Indian Economy 1858-1914* (A People's History of India), Vol.28, Tulika 2006.

Daniel Thorner, *Agrarian Prospect in India*, 1977.

L. Visaria and P. Visaria, *Population*. CEHI, Chapter 5.

vi. DSE 6: Public Finance

Course Description

This course is a non-technical overview of government finances with special reference to India. The course does not require any prior knowledge of economics. It will look into the efficiency and equity aspects of taxation of the centre, states and the local governments and the issues of fiscal federalism and decentralisation in India. The course will be useful for students aiming towards careers in the government sector, policy analysis, business and journalism.

Course Outline

Part 1: Theory

1. Overview of Fiscal Functions, Tools of Normative Analysis, Pareto Efficiency, Equity and the Social Welfare.
2. Market Failure, Public Good and Externalities.
3. Elementary Theories of Product and Factor Taxation (Excess Burden and Incidence).

Part 2: Issues from Indian Public Finance

4. Working of Monetary and Fiscal Policies.
5. Current Issues of India's Tax System.
6. Analysis of Budget and Deficits
7. Fiscal Federalism in India
8. State and Local Finances

Readings

1. Musgrave, R.A. and P.B. Musgrave, *Public Finance in Theory and Practice*, Mc-Graw Hill, 1989.
2. Mahesh Purohit, "*Value Added Tax: Experience of India and Other Countries*", Gayatri Publications, 2007.
3. Kaushik Basu, and A. Maertens (ed.), *The Oxford Companion to Economics in India*, Oxford University Press, 2007.
4. M.M Sury, *Government Budgeting in India*, Commonwealth Publishers, 1990.
5. Shankar Acharya, "Thirty years of tax reform" in India, *Economic and Political Weekly*, May 2005.
6. Government of India, *Report of the 13th Finance Commission*.
7. *Economic Survey*, Government of India (latest).
8. State Finances: A Study of Budgets, *Reserve Bank of India* (latest).