

Framing of Uniform Credit Structure for all Higher Educational Institutions of the State and Implementation of the Common Curriculum and Credit Framework under the National Education Policy-2020

## Government of Gujarat Education Department GR No: KCG/admin/2023-24/0607/kh. 1 <br> Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar <br> Date-11/07/2023

## Read:

1) National Education Policy (NEP) - 2020.
2) D.O.No.F.1-3/2022(Rajbhasha/NEP) on "Guidelines for Incorporating Indian Knowledge System in Higher Education Curricula" released by UGC on dated 13/06/2023
3) F. No.: 2-3/2022 (QIP) on "National Credit Framework (NCrF)" released by UGC on 10/04/2023
4) File No. 36-10/2016-NVEQF, on "Revised Credit Framework SAMVAY" released by Department of Higher Education, MoHRD, Govt. of India on dated 05/02/2018
5) F. No.: 1-1/2021 (QIP) (CBCS) on "Curriculum and credit framework for undergraduate programmes" released letter with guidelines by UGC on dated 12/12/2022
6) Implementation roadmap of NEP-2020 for the state of Gujarat released on January-2022
7) GR No.: HRE/2022/1111/KH-1, Education Department, Govt. of Gujarat released on dated 24/02/2023
8) DOF No.: 15-2/2012 (QIP) on "National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF)" released by UGC on dated 11/05/2023
9) F No. 2-1/2021/(QIP) on "Implementation of Multidisciplinary and Holistic Education in Higher Education Institutions" released by UGC on dated 19/07/2021
10) F.1-9/2022 (IKSInitiatives) on "Guidelines for Training of Faculty on Indian Knowledge System (IKS)" released by UGC on dated 14/12/2023

## Preamble:

The Government of India has notified NEP-2020 on July 29, 2020 based on Dr. Kasturirangan Committee's Report. The Objective is to bridge the gap between the prevalent education system and required skills in the 21st Century. Its aims to build Holistic and Multidisciplinary Higher Education with graduates having employable and integrated overall personality, removing tight compartments in the selection of various courses by the students.

The National Education Policy 2020 envisages making education more inclusive and effective and emphasizing the integration of general (academic) education, vocational education and practical education. To fulfil these aims, it is imperative to establish and formulize a common credit framework in all Universities with credit accumulation and transfer system which will integrate various Special, General and Vocational Education with hassle free mobility of the learners within and between these educational and skill training systems.

The State Government is vigorously implementing the National Education Policy, 2020. The Government of Gujarat through its Government Resolution (GR) dated 24/01/2023 has constituted Apex Committee to suggest an Implementation Framework for NEP-2020. It has also formed a Steering and Task Force committees under the Apex Committee to work towards actionable points listed in the GR. Various 07 committees have also been formed under these committees corresponding to different reforms of NEP-2020. K.C.G. Office, Department of Education through public notice dated 07/06/2023 published a draft GR, prescribing credit and curriculum framework for all higher educational institutions of the State under NEP-2020, in order to seek suggestions/opinions from various universities, public and other stakeholders. Accordingly, taking into consideration the suggestions received, both the committees have submitted recommendations to the State Government for preparing the credit structure for various courses. On the basis of the above recommendations, preparing a uniform credit structure with credit consolidation and credit transfer system for implementing it in all higher educational institutions was under the consideration of the State Government.

## Resolution:

After careful consideration by the Government, a uniform credit structure is prescribed with credit consolidation and credit transfer system under the "Common Curriculum and Credit Framework" for all Higher Educational Institutions (Government and Private Universities, Autonomous Colleges, Government Granted and Private Colleges, Recognized Higher Education Institutions) in the State of Gujarat under the National Education Policy-2020 to maintain uniformity, in credit distribution along with credit transfer arrangements.

## NEP-2020 Implementation in First Phase:

In accordance with the letter with guidelines on dated $12^{\text {th }}$ December 2022, University Grant Commission came out with "Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programmes". The Credit and Curriculum Framework is to be made applicable, in the first phase, for the following Programmes (other than those regulated by AICTE, MCI, PCI, BCI, CoA, NCTE etc.) with affect from current Academic Year 2023-24:

## Programmes:

Under Graduate (UG): B.A., B.Sc., B.Com., Bachelor's Vocational Education and Training and all Non-AICTE professional UG degree programmes.
Post Graduate (PG): M.A., M.Sc., M.Com., Master's Vocational Education and Training and all Non-AICTE professional PG degree programmes.

Universities are required to study and follow "Guidelines for Transforming Higher Education Institutions into Multidisciplinary Institutions" issued by UGC on September 2022, for appropriate use of available Academic Resources of the universities, for providing Multidisciplinary and Holistic Education.

## Key Concepts: -

1) Assessment is the process of determining that the learner has achieved the outcomes of the module. No credit can be earned by the learner unless programme is assessed for the achievement of outcome of a programme.
2) Assessment Band: NCrF level be equated with the assessment mandatory stage of academic, vocational or experiential learning which must be cleared by the learner. Clubbing of levels (If any between two mandatory stage) has been referred as Assessment band.
3) 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 15 weeks/90 days).

- 1 Theory Credit = 15 hours of academic activity engagement in a semester
- 1 credit of (practical/Internship/workshop-based activity/ Self-LearningOnline/Offline) $=30$ hours of engagement in a semester
- 1 Credit of Experiential learning (field visit/industry visit)/Assignments $=40-45$ hours of engagement in a semester
- Research Project/Dissertation: Entire Seventh \& Eighth Semester (12 Credits)

4) A Credit Scheme is a formal mechanism for awarding credits in respect of learning achievements
5) Credit Accumulation: The credit would be given for every kind of learning which are of each qualification and these credits can be accumulated in Academic Bank of Credits (ABC).
6) Credit Storage: ABC shall enable an individual to digitally keep record of all the learning acquired and accumulated in terms of credits points throughout life in a common account irrespective of types of learning i.e. academic, vocational training or experiential.
7) Credit Transfer is a process by which credits are recognized by the concerned awarding body and mutual acceptance of credits between two entities. There may be rules framed for the same.
8) Credit Level defined on the basis of the cumulative number of years of learning with assessment.
9) Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) provides an opportunity for the students to choose courses from the prescribed pool of courses comparing Major/Core, Minor/Elective of Skills Based (Vocational) courses etc.
10) Credit Framework means the framework, built to measure units of education, skills, and learning credits for a student to achieve the competency for performing a job role successfully or efficiently.
11) Entry Eligibility: The acquired and accumulated credits points by the learner needed for moving to a particular level after undergoing academic, vocational or experiential learning. These credits points must have been accumulated from the lower adjacent assessment band.

- The accumulated credits are with respect to each assessment band
- Academic equivalence possible only within the same assessment band

12) Learner/Student refers to an individual undergoing general or vocational education, whether in a formal or informal setting.
13) Learning Hours: Total outcome based learning hours for credits shall include:

- Classroom Teaching/Tutorials/Group Discussions/Video Presentation/ Online Teaching, etc.
- Lab work/Practical/Projects/Assignments
- Sports/Games/Physical Activities/Yoga
- Social/Community work (Including NCC/NSS participation)
- Internship/Apprenticeship/On The Job Training (OJT), experiential learning (field visit, industries visit) etc.

14) Level of Courses: UG courses shall be coded based on the learning outcomes, level of difficulties and academic rigors. The Coding structure may be 0-99 (Pre-requisite level), 100-199 (Foundation or Introductory level), 200-299 (Intermediate level), 300-399 (Higher level) and 400-499 (Advanced level), 500-599 (First year course for two years Master Degree Programme), 600-699 (Second year course for two years Master Degree Programme), 700-799 \& above (Courses of Doctoral students).
15) Learning Outcomes represent what a learner knows, understands and is able to do on a completion of a learning process. It would be expressed in terms of knowledge, skills and competence.
16) Level of learning is one of the dimensions evaluated, in the process of determining credit rating of learning achievement.
17) A National Credit system is a framework with a set of specification, that is used by all institution and awarding bodies.
18) Notional Learning Hours for one year of education/training across higher and vocational education have been agreed to be 1200 hrs for the purpose of assignments to award 40 credits subject to assessments. (However for each year of learning, the number of credit may go up and correspondingly the number of learning hours will also go up)
19) Skills means the ability to apply knowledge and use know-how to complete task and solve problems.
20) Sector means a grouping of professional activities on the basis of their main economic function, product, service and technology

## 1. Credit Framework under Three/Four - Years UG programme with Multiple Entry and Multiple Exit Options:

UGC has formulated a student centric Three/Four-year Bachelor's Degree Programme. Curriculum and Credit Framework for the Under Graduate Degree Programmes incorporating a choice-based credit system for students, multidisciplinary approach and multiple entry and exit options has also been created. It focuses on major and minor subjects as per the choices of exploring learning in different institutions.
The final credit framework for different level under Three/Four-year UG programme with multiple entry and exit options as per the UGC norms (with $10 \%$ variation on higher side) are given below, which should be strictly implemented by all universities:

Credit Framework for 3 years/ 4 years UG Programme

| NCrF Credit <br> Levels | Qualification Title | Credit Requirements | No. Of <br> Semesters | Year |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4.5 | UG Certificate | 44 | 2 | 1 |
| 5.0 | UG Diploma | 88 | 4 | 2 |
| 5.5 | Three Year Bachelor's Degree | 132 | 6 | 3 |
| 6.0 | Bachelor's Degree-Honours <br> OR <br> Bachelor's Degree-Honours <br> with Research | 176 | 8 | 4 |


| Year Wise Distribution of Total Credits among Different Courses (As per UGC norms) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sr. | Category of Course | Credit Requirement |  |  |
| No. |  | 3- Years' <br> UG <br> Programme <br> (Bachelor's <br> Degree) | 4- Years' UG <br> Programme <br> (Bachelor's <br> Degree- <br> Honours) | 4- Years' UG <br> Programme <br> (Bachelor's Degree <br> Honours with <br> Research) |
| 1 | Major (Core) Courses (With Internship) | 68 | 92 | 92 |


| 2 | Minor (Elective) Courses | 24 | 32 | 32 |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 | Multidisciplinary/Interdisciplinary/Allied <br> Courses | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| 4 | AEC (Ability Enhancement Courses) | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| 5 | SEC (Skill Enhancement Courses) | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| 6 | VAC (Value Added Courses) including <br> (IKS) Indian Knowledge System | 08 | 08 | 08 |
| 7 | Dissertation/Research Project | - | 12 <br> (On-The-Job <br> Training) | (Research Project) |
|  | Total Credits | $\mathbf{1 3 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 7 6}$ | $\mathbf{1 7 6}$ |

1.1. To maintain the uniformity in the credit distribution among all courses in all Higher Education Institution (HEIs) i.e. universities and colleges in the state, a common credit framework has been defined with fixed credits and the same is accepted by the Education Department, Government of Gujarat i.e. 132 credits for Three Years UG programme and 176 Credits for Four Years UG Honors/ Honors with research programme. (i.e. $10 \%$ variation on the higher side of the credits suggested by UGC). All the Universities can evolve the mechanism for providing Semester/Level wise credit attainment without any change and within the common framework laid down by the state of Gujarat.
1.2. It will not be mandatory to opt for fourth year for all those students who are taking admission in first year of Four Years UG Degree Programme (FYUGP) with effect from Academic Year 2023-24. The Fourth Year Honours/ Honours with Research Programme (Level 6.0) will begin with specific quality standards, effective from Academic year 2026-27.

## 2. Distribution of Credit and selection of courses across Four Years Degree Programmes:

### 2.1. Major Discipline Course (Various Electives):

Major discipline is the main focus (Core) dominant subject and the degree will be awarded in that discipline. Students must secure a prescribed number of credits (About $50 \%$ of total credits) through core courses in the major discipline. Students can choose the courses from the pool of courses and the HEIs/Universities have to take necessary steps for the same. The number of courses (subjects) in Major may vary from semester to semester. IKS and Vocational education courses can be included as a part of Major (core) course, with approved ODL courses.

HEIs may decide the coding and levelling of the courses as per UGC curriculum framework.

## Regarding single and double major course:

I. Bachelor's Degree Programmes with Single Major: A learner has to secure a minimum $50 \%$ of total credits ( 66 credits) from the major discipline courses for the 3 -years/4-years Bachelor's degree to be awarded a single major degree.
II. Bachelor's Programmes with Double Major: A learner must additionally secure a minimum $40 \%$ of total credits ( 53 credits) from the second major discipline courses for the 3 -years/4-years bachelor's degree to be awarded a double major degree. In short, student can opt two major (core) subjects as their own choices.

### 2.2. Minor Discipline Course (Open, Domain Specific, Generic-Electives):

Minor discipline is the broader understanding course beyond the major discipline course. It should also have open, generic-electives for students to choose from the pool of courses. It helps students to gain broader knowledge in addition to relevant major disciplines courses as per their choices.

- Minor subjects may be from same or different disciplines as per choice of the students. Student may make choices according to their interest/need, from ODL courses also.
- The Credit of Minor subject shall be $\mathbf{2 4}$ credits of total credits for $\mathbf{3}$ years' bachelor's degree and $\mathbf{3 2}$ credits of total credits for four years' bachelor's degree programme.
- HEIs may decide the coding and level of the courses as per UGC curriculum framework.


### 2.3. Interdisciplinary/Multidisciplinary/Allied Courses:

This is constituent discipline of the major courses and it helps learners to acquire core competence in relevant or any other independent courses of their choices. This course may be major specific or other discipline specific. Learner shall have option to choose the course from available pool of courses or from any other institutions as the learner's choice. $\mathbf{1 2}$ credits shall be allocated to Interdisciplinary/ Multidisciplinary/Allied courses. Thus, opportunities shall be available to students to choose from a wide range of courses. The present old tight compartment shall need to be modified accordingly for all universities.

### 2.4. Ability Enhancement Course (AEC):

To be offered to students to achieve competency in a Modern Indian Language and English Language focused on language and communication skills. It may be a major specific course. $\mathbf{1 0}$ credits shall be allocated to AEC. The courses shall be offered from the vast pool of courses approved by HEIs.

### 2.5. Skill Enhancement Course (SEC)

It's aimed at imparting practical skills, embedded internship, hands-on training, soft skills, life skills, such approved online courses etc. to enhance the employability of students. This may also include courses as per the need of new evolving technology. $\mathbf{1 0}$ credits shall be allocated for SEC. The courses shall be offered from the pool of courses approved by HEIs, including approved online courses.

### 2.6. Value Added Course (VAC)

These courses aim at enabling the student to acquire and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of contemporary India with its historical perspective. Course may include Environment Science, Public Health, Renewable Energy and Energy Harvesting, Yoga Education, sports and fitness, cultural activities, enhancing interpersonal skills, critical-logical thinking, speech, memory, health, wellness human values, NSS/NCC and Fine/ Applied/ Visual/ Performing Art/ IKS etc. $\mathbf{8}$ credits shall have allocated for VAC. Learner shall have option to choose the course independently from available pool of courses, including approved online courses.

### 2.7. Summer Internship / Field Projects/ Apprenticeship / Community Engagement and Service corresponding to Major Subject, Co-Curricular Courses and Research Project:

- The Universities compulsory offer Internship/ Apprenticeship to the students corresponding to Major specific NSQF defined course in summer vacation, which will be mandatory to exit in first and second year of the Three/Four years' degree programmes. This may increase the value of student in the market.
- Field Projects/Community Engagement and services, corresponding to Major subject to be offered in first and second year, which shall fulfil the job opportunities in many fields with their knowledge and skills. Each University/Educational Institute shall coordinate/make MoU with various recognized training centres in this regard.


### 2.8. Research Project/Dissertation:

- To be offered to students who have minimum aggregate of $75 \%$ of marks in first six semesters and having other standards decided by the university and wish to take research at undergraduate level. This matter may be further clarified in the detailed SOP.
- The research project / dissertation will be in major discipline with 12 credits.
- The student securing the required number of credits at the end of four years along with 12 credits of research/ dissertation will be awarded with a degree of 'Honours with Research'.

Arrangement of Credit Distribution Framework for three/four years Honours/Honours with
Research Degree Programme with Multiple Entry and Exits Options for all the institutions:

| NCrF Credit Level | Semester | Major (Core) | Minor (Electives) | Multi/ <br> Inter- <br> disciplinary | AEC | $\underset{\text { Internship }}{\text { SEC/ }}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { VAC/ } \\ & \text { IKS } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { RP/ } \\ & \text { OJT } \end{aligned}$ | Total Credit per Sem. | Qualification /Certificate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4.5 | I | 8 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 (SEC) | 2 (IKS) | - | 22 | UG <br> Certificate |
| First <br> Year | II | 8 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 (SEC) | $\begin{gathered} 2 \\ \text { (VAC) } \end{gathered}$ | - | 22 |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1^{\text {st }} \text { Yeal } \\ & \text { Credits } \end{aligned}$ | Total | 16 | 8 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 4 | - | 44 |  |

Exit 1: Award of UG certificate in Major course with 44 credits with additional 4 credits of Summer Internship in core specific NSQF defined course OR continue with Major and Minor course for next NCrF credit level

|  | III | 12 | - | 4 | 2 | 2 (SEC) | 2 (IKS) | - | 22 | UG Diploma |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Second <br> Year | IV | 12 | 4 | - | 2 | 2 (SEC) | $\begin{gathered} 2 \\ (\mathrm{VAC}) \end{gathered}$ | - | 22 |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 2^{\text {nd }} \text { Yea } \\ & \text { Credits } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | tal | 40 | 12 | 12 | 8 | 8 | 8 | - | 88 |  |

Exit 2: Award of UG Diploma in Major course with 88 credits with additional 4 credits of Summer Internship in core specific NSQF defined course OR continue with Major and Minor course for next NCrF credit level

| 5.5 | V | 12 | 8 | - | - | 2 (SEC) | - | - | 22 | UG Degree |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Third Year | VI | 12 | 4 | - | 2 | $\begin{gathered} 4 \\ \text { (Internship) } \end{gathered}$ | - | - | 22 |  |
| $3^{\mathrm{rd}} \mathrm{Yea}$ Credits | Total | 64 | 24 | 12 | 10 | 14 | 8 | - | 132 |  |

Award of UG Degree in Major course with 132 credits and Internship in core discipline OR continue with Major and Minor course for next NCrF credit level

| 6.0 <br> Fourth <br> Year | VII | $\mathbf{1 2}$ | 4 | - | - | - | - | 6 <br> $($ OJT $)$ | 22 | UIII |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\mathbf{1 2}$ | 4 | - | - | - | - | 6 <br> $($ OJT $)$ | 22 | Uonours <br> Hegree |  |
| $4^{\text {th }}$ Year Total <br> Credits | $\mathbf{8 8}$ | $\mathbf{3 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 4}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{1 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 7 6}$ |  |  |

Award of UG Honours Degree in Major course with total 176 credits

| 6.0 | VII | 12 | 4 | - | - | - | - | 6 <br> $(R P)$ | 22 | UG <br> Honours |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | VIII | 12 | 4 | - | - | - | - | 6 <br> $(R P)$ | 22 | with <br> Research <br> Degree |
| $4^{\text {th }}$ Year Total <br> Credits | $\mathbf{8 8}$ | $\mathbf{3 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 4}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | $\mathbf{1 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 7 6}$ | D2 |  |

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## Abbreviation:

AEC (Ability Enhancement Course); IKS (Indian Knowledge System); NCrF (National Credit Framework); NSS (National Service Scheme); NCC (National Cadet Corps); NSQF (National Skills Qualification Framework); OJT (On-the-Job Training); SEC (Skills Enhancement Course); RP (Research Project); VAC (Value Added Course), ODL (Open and Distance Learning)

## Note:

1) Internship in 6th semester shall be in Major specific courses and credit allocated for internship would be compulsorily counted under Major course.
2) Honours students not undergoing research, will do either OJT in 7th and 8th semester OR 3 courses of Major/Minor of 12 credits in lieu of a research project, which will be awarded honours degree to the students.
3) Credit aligned with each course (Subject) in Major/Minor/Multidisciplinary is kept 04 credits.

Based on above credit framework, calculation of credits in third and fourth years shall be as below:

| Year | Major <br> (Core) <br> (nternship <br> credits to <br> be added) | Minor <br> (Electives) | Multi/Inter <br> disciplinary | AEC | SEC | VAC/ <br> IKS | Research <br> Project/ <br> On-the-Job <br> Training | Semester <br> wise <br> cumulative <br> total credits |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Third | $64+4$ <br> (internship) <br> $=68$ | 24 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 8 | - | 132 |
| Fourth | $88+4$ <br> (internship) <br> 99 | 32 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 12 | 176 |

## 3. Courses on Indian Knowledge System (IKS):

3.1 UGC has published Guidelines for Indian Knowledge System (Guidelines for Incorporating Indian Knowledge in Higher Education Curricula on March-2023 and Guidelines for Training of Faculty on Indian Knowledge System on February-2023) all Universities are required to adhere these guidelines strictly.
3.2 IKS shall be an integral part of the UG course curriculum for all disciplines and all the students who are enrolled in the four-year UG programmes should be encouraged to take an adequate number of courses in IKS. Universities have to create a wide basket of such diverse subjects.
3.3 The guidelines published by UGC in March-2023 have to be strictly followed. The credits taken into IKS should be at least 5\% (i.e. 8.8 credits) of total mandated credits in Three Years/Four Years UG programmes. At least $50 \%$ (i.e. 4.4 credits) of the credits apportioned to the IKS should be related to major discipline and accounted for the credits assigned for the major discipline. The rest $50 \%$ (i.e. 4.4 credits) of credit should be allocated to multidisciplinary courses.

## 4. Establishing Multiple Entry \& Multiple Exit (ME \& ME) Pathway:

Flexible learning is important to choose one's academic pathway leading to the award of Certificate, Diploma, and Degree. The multiple entry and exit points in the academic programmes offered at Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) would remove rigid boundaries and create new possibilities for students to choose and learn the subject(s) of their choice from a wide pool of courses. In addition, it will pave the way for seamless student mobility, between or within universities/degree granting HEIs through a formal system of credit recognition, credit accumulation, credit transfers, and credit redemption.
4.1. UG Certificate after completing one year in a discipline or field including vocational or professional areas after securing 44 credits provided, they secure 4 additional credits in work based vocational skill course or internship/Apprenticeship offered (Exit courses) during summer vacation. A student can also accumulate fixed proportion (40\%) of credits from approved ODL courses as per UGC norms.
4.2. UG Diploma after completing two years in a discipline or field including vocational or professional areas after securing 88 credits provided, they secure 4 additional credits in work based vocational skill course or internship/Apprenticeship offered (Exit courses) during summer vacation. This credit enhances their skills and gives them job skills.
4.3. Bachelor's degree after three years' programme in the relevant discipline after securing 132 credits in the relevant discipline.
4.4. Exist options shall be provided with UG Certificate, UG Diploma, Bachelor's degree to the learner at the end of second, fourth and sixth semester respectively. In the fourth year, learners will receive a Bachelor's degree (Honours/Honours with Research) after securing 176 credits on successfully completion of all eight semesters of the UG programme either at a stretch or with exits or re-entry options.
4.5. Four Years UG Degree (Honours with Research): students who secure aggregate $75 \%$ or above marks in the first six semesters shall have the option to choose a research stream in fourth year as per other prescribed norms. Students need to conduct research project under guidance of concerned HEIs with weightage of 12 credits. After the fourth year degree, student shall have option to pursue one year's PG programme.
4.6. Re-entry or lateral entry: Learner who are opting for exits at any level, shall re-enter the programmes where they had left off. They can re-enter either in same or in different HEIs within three years of exits and complete the degree programme within the stipulated maximum period of seven years from the date of admission to first year UG programme.
4.7. Inter University Transfer: Government of Gujarat will prepare and release Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to facilitate student in taking transfer from one institution to another or from one university to another. Universities are required to take due care that once transfer criteria are satisfied, student should not suffer.
4.8. Government of Gujarat will prepare and release Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) instructions and eligibility criteria (Infrastructure facility, Academic resources and other requirement) for all its institutions who can offer courses in Fourth year.
4.9. Institutes offering "Three Years UG Programmes" shall be required to seek requisite written permission from the University. The university can allow them to have fourth year after fulfilment of standard norms (maybe prescribed in SOP).
4.10. As per the norms of UGC, student is allowed to take Exit after first and second year. All the universities of Gujarat are required to prepare pool of courses and SOP for such Exit courses to facilitate the students.
4.11. The Universities are required to prepare pool of courses to be offered under the category of Major Courses, Minor Courses, Multidisciplinary Courses, Ability Enhancement Courses, Skill Enhancement Courses, Value added Courses, approved ODL courses etc. as per the guidelines of 'Credit and Curriculum Framework for UG Programme issued by UGC. Universities shall ensure that the pool of courses created under the categories mentioned herein shall be justified and qualifies to be a part of the group or pool of courses and does not defeat the objective of NEP-2020.

## 5. Mechanism of Academic Bank of Credits (ABC):

5.1. All educational institutions must complete all procedures including registration as per Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) guidelines. Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) is an academic service mechanism as a digital/virtual/online entity established and managed by MOE/UGC. This will facilitate students to become its academic account holders and
paving the way for seamless student mobility between or within degree-granting Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) through a formal system of credit recognition, credit accumulation, credit transfers and credit redemption to promote distributed teachinglearning from various recognized institutions, approved ODL and other sources to increase their knowledge, capacities and skills.
5.2. ABC shall be established on the lines of "National Academic Depository" (NAD) as a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV). It shall have a dynamic website providing all details of ABC, operational mechanism for the use of all stakeholders of higher education.
5.3. All the State/ Private Universities and higher educational institutions of Gujarat shall follow all the instructions \& guidelines issued by NAD \& ABC from time to time, for facilitating students of Gujarat.
5.4. Credit expiry: Credits earned by the learner shall be deposited in the respective $A B C$ and shall be valid for a period as defined by the concerned regulator or till it is redeemed.

## 6. Post Graduate Programmes Mechanism:

6.1. The students currently undergoing three years degree programme shall continue to pursue three years degree programme and entitled to pursue Post Graduate programmes as per the existing structure of three years degree and two years Master's programme.
6.2. A two-year Master's programme with the second year devoted entirely to research will be introduced and designed the curriculum by the universities of Gujarat from academic year 2026-27 for the students who will be completing the three-year Bachelor's programme, as per the guidelines which may be issued by UGC from time to time.
6.3. A one-year Master's programme will be introduced and designed the curriculum by the universities of Gujarat from academic year 2027-28 for the students who will be completing a four-year Bachelor's programme with "Honours" or "Honours with Research" as per the guidelines which may be issued by UGC from time to time.

## 7. Open and Distance Learning (ODL):

7.1. Universities are required to facilitate students who wish to switch to alternative modes of learning (Open Distance Learning (ODL), Online learning, and hybrid modes of learning) by preparing appropriate SOP for such alternative mode of learning.
7.2. NEP allows options to the students to earn credit by online, (SWAYAM: www.swayam.gov.in) or other Online Educational Platform approved by the competent body from time to time.
7.3. As per the UGC guidelines, Students may opt to earn credits through ODL/Online mode from such Major, Minor, Multidisciplinary, AEC, VAC, SEC and other courses in any discipline, up to 40 percent of the total credits required for the award of a certificate / Diploma / Degree. Universities have to make necessary arrangements on this matter.

## 8. Institutional Development Plan (IDP):

8.1. All Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) of the state will prepare their Institutional Development Plan (IDP) mandatorily, as per the "Draft Institutional Development Plan for HEIs" issued by UGC-2022 and send it to the Education Department.
8.2. Five years Institutional Development Plan (IDP) shall give emphasis on human resources requirements, in terms of faculty and administrative staff, physical infrastructural facilities, ICT-related technology requirements, learning infrastructures such as Laboratories, Libraries, Student Support related areas and Teaching infrastructure, competitive courses, research, quality ratings as well as the projection of growth and transformations in line with NEP-2020.

## 9. NEP implementation roadmap for the State of Gujarat:

NEP-2020 implementation timeline at HEIs level will be done as per the roadmap
"Implementation Roadmap of National Education Policy-2020 for the State of Gujarat"
issued by Education Department (Higher \& Technical), Government of Gujarat in January 2022. HEI shall make available this roadmap to all stakeholders.

## 10. Sensitization of Stakeholders:

The Universities must devise, articulate and execute the rigorous plan for the sensitization of stakeholders in the immediate future for effective implementation of the new curricular framework, and all other Guidelines issued by UGC \& Ministry of Education, for effective and timely implementation of National Education Policy-2020 in the state of Gujarat without any changes. The old framework has to be drastically amended immediately and many new subjects have to be selected for the new structure, taking into account all the major points of the National Education Policy (NEP) - 2020 and the NCrF framework. Different baskets of many new subjects needs to be prepared for the new structure.

## 11. Other:

11.1. The Universities - i.e. State, Private, Deemed, etc. Formed or established under any law passed by the State Government of Gujarat shall adhere to the guidelines issued by University Grant Commission, Ministry of Education - New Delhi and Education Department of Gujarat from time to time.
11.2. This Government Resolution is issued in both English and Gujarati. In case of ambiguity or inconsistency in the interpretation of any clause or section, the Resolution in English shall be held final.
11.3. All Universities/Autonomous Colleges of Gujarat shall adhere to the common Standard Operating Procedure (S.O.P.) to be released by Government of Gujarat for implementation of NEP-2020 from time to time.

## By order and in the name of the Governor of Gujarat,



Deputy Secretary
Education Department
To,

- Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Governor of Gujarat, Raj Bhavan, Gandhinagar (by letter)
- P.S. to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Swarnim-1, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar
- P.S. to Hon'ble Minister (Higher \& Tech.) Swarnim-1, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar
- P.S. to Hon'ble Minister of State (Higher Education), Swarnim-2, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar
- P.S. to Chief Secretary, Gujarat State, Block-1, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar
- P.S. to Principal Secretary (Higher \& Tech.), Education Department, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar
- Advisor, KCG, Pragnapuram campus, Navarangpura, Ahmedabad-380015
- Vice-Chancellor, All Universities (through the Commissionerate of Higher Education)
- Registrar, All Universities (through the Commissionerate of Higher Education)
- Principal, All Colleges/ Higher Educational Institutes (through the Commissionerate of Higher Education)
- Principal, All Colleges/ Technical Educational Institutes (through the Office of the Director of Higher Education)
- Section Officer (KH, KH-2, GH, S-Branch), Education Department, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar
- Computer Cell, Education Department, Sachivalaya with regard to placing on website
- Branch Select File
- Deputy Section Officer Select File.


[^0]:    Award of UG Honours with Research Degree in Major course with total 176 credits

