



Office of Dean Academics

Policy Document

KLEF/ODA/1.12/P11201/2022/V1.0

Date: 21/05/2022

Title: Double Degree

Policy:

The students pursuing various programs in the university are given an opportunity to pursue two-degree programs in parallel. However, they are permitted to do so in two different streams provided there is no clash in the timetable. Also, students can do any of the following combinations like both degrees in regular, one in regular and other in online, both degrees in online.

Outcomes:

- Gives multi-disciplinary exposure to the students to pursue their passion along with the program that can help them in getting career opportunities.
- Enhances the confidence level of the students by opening up opportunities across two different disciplines enabling them to take-up different career tracks in each one of them.

Introduction

The National Education Policy - NEP 2020 states that pedagogy must evolve to make education more experiential, holistic, integrated, inquiry-driven, discovery-oriented, learner- centered, discussion-based, flexible, and, of course, enjoyable. The policy envisions imaginative and flexible curricular structures to enable creative combinations of disciplines for study, that would offer multiple entry and exit points, thus, removing

currently prevalent rigid boundaries and creating new possibilities for life-long learning and centrally involve critical and interdisciplinary thinking.

With the rapid increase in demand for higher education and limited availability of seats in regular stream, several Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) have started varied programs in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode to meet the aspirations of students. It has also led to the emergence of online education programs which a student can pursue within the comforts of her / his home. The issue of allowing the students to pursue two academic programs simultaneously has been examined by the Commission keeping in view the proposals envisaged in the National Education Policy - NEP 2020 is to emphasize the need to facilitate multiple pathways to learning involving both formal and non-formal education modes.

Objectives:

To allow the students to pursue two academic programs simultaneously keeping in view the following objectives envisaged in NEP 2020:

- recognizing, identifying, and fostering the unique capabilities of each student, by sensitizing teachers as well as parents to promote each student's holistic development in both academic and non-academic spheres.
- no hard separations between arts and sciences, between curricular and extra-curricular activities, between vocational and academic streams, etc. in order to eliminate harmful hierarchies among, and silos between different areas of learning.
- multidisciplinary and a holistic education across the sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities, and sports for a multidisciplinary world in order to ensure the unity and integrity of all knowledge.
- enabling an individual to study one or more specialized areas of interest at a deep level, and also develop character, ethical and constitutional values, intellectual curiosity, scientific temper, creativity, spirit of service.
- offering the students, a range of disciplines including sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities, languages, as well as professional, technical, and vocational subjects to make them thoughtful, well-rounded, and creative individuals.

- prepare students for more meaningful and satisfying lives and work roles and enable economic independence.

Guidelines:

1. A student can pursue two full-time academic programs in physical mode provided that in such cases, class timings for one program do not overlap with the class timings of the other program.
2. A student can pursue two academic programs, one in full-time physical mode and another in Open and Distance Learning (ODL)/Online mode; or up to two ODL/Online programs simultaneously.
3. Degree or diploma programs under ODL/Online mode shall be pursued with only such HEIs which are recognized by UGC/Statutory Council/Govt. of India for running such programs.
4. Degree or diploma programs under these guidelines shall be governed by the Regulations notified by the UGC and also the respective statutory/professional councils, wherever applicable.
5. These guidelines shall come into effect from the date of their notification by the UGC. No retrospective benefit can be claimed by the students who have already done two academic programs simultaneously prior to the notification of these guidelines.
6. Students interested in doing dual degree are required to submit the application through their mentor, duly forwarded by the respective department head and principal to the office of Dean Academics with a statement of purpose for doing the degrees in parallel.
7. The mentor of the respective student is required to explain to the student in length on the opportunities and challenges in doing two parallel degrees and the support that can be extended by the parent department towards the same.
8. Students who register for two parallel degrees at the same time are required to undergo the capability test which tests their communication, listening, reading, writing, time management, SWOT analysis, aptitude (as applicable), etc. in order to identify the learning ability of the student and guide them appropriately towards choosing the degree programs to be done parallel and the effective measures to be taken to perform well in both of them.

9. Shortcomings identified through the test will be addressed by the University by giving bridge courses for the students before commencing the second degree.
10. In case if the student is already pursuing a degree program and wish to register for the second program, the performance of the students with respect to the first program will be taken into account along with the performance in the test on communication, listening, reading, writing, aptitude, etc.
11. In either case a counseling session for the students will help in the presence of the Heads of the respective departments offering those programs and the Dean Academics to highlight the scope and opportunities for the students.
12. The students will be advised on choosing the appropriate career track in each of those programs in such a way that it ensures the student employment/ entrepreneurship opportunity in one program and scope for higher studies on another or multi-disciplinary opportunity on different career tracks whatever the student wishes to take-up.
13. Once the student has decided the programs to enroll parallelly the mentor will be given necessary instructions to guide the students in choosing the courses appropriately in each semester and utilize summer semester effectively to mitigate the overloading of subjects in the regular semester.
14. Students undergoing the dual degree may be permitted to store their credits in the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) under their appropriate program enrollment and will be permitted to multi-entry / exit on the respective programs as per choice.
15. Students are required to complete each of the degree they have enrolled for within the maximum stipulated time as applicable for the respective program of study. No extension on the maximum period will be considered without due approval from the Academic Council.
16. Students undergoing the dual degree program are required to satisfy the degree requirements of the respective programs separately and in cases where there is an overlap of subjects across the programs, it will be considered in one of them and the outcome attainment will be considered in another program without giving duplicate grade. However, the student is required to satisfy the credit requirement of another program by doing some additional courses as suggested by the department, duly approved in BoS and Academic Council.

17. Students are free to cancel their admission in the second program midway if they are not able to pursue them without affecting the admission into the first program. However, it is advised that they are required to use the ABC and Muti entry exit provision of NEP 2020 to avoid dropping out from a program and do it at their own pace.

The above guidelines shall be applicable only to the students pursuing academic programs other than Ph.D. program.

Suggested combination of programs (indicative, but not limited to):

The following are the suggested combinations from the office of Dean Academics for the students to get an understanding of what best combination can be taken by the students to enhance their career opportunities. These were indicative ones, students are free to choose their own combination of programs by taking necessary advice from their parents, mentor, peers, etc.

Engineering and Management

M.Tech (Engg. Programs) + MBA – Students pursuing master's in engineering can widen their scope by taking up a management program in parallel thereby enabling them to become technopreneur. This also helps them to get involved in managing the startups as Chief Technology Innovation Officer.

Management and Information technology

MCA +MBA or MBA +MCA – Gives an edge for those who pursue management and other streams to be aware of technology and management related aspects in order to run the startups successfully.

BBA + BCA - Gives an edge for those who pursue management and other streams to be aware of technology and management related aspects in order to run the startups successfully.

Commerce and Information technology

BCom +BCA – gives an edge to those who wish to do commerce by exposing them to the field of information technology thereby enabling them to build commercial applications which can be used in organizations or in an ecommerce-based startup.

(BSc, BA, BHM) +BCA – gives an edge to those who are pursuing the undergraduate in Arts and Science by getting exposure to the Information Technology domain thereby enabling them to build software applications which can be used in organizations or in a startup.

Information Technology and BBA, BCom, BA, BHM, BSc (Agriculture), BFA, etc.

Students who are pursuing BCA are free to choose the other programs as listed above as BCA gives them the capability to create applications that cater to the domains like commerce, management, hospitality, agriculture, etc. It also helps the students undergoing computer or information technology related subjects to pursue their passionate areas of study and apply their knowledge to build products or solutions appropriately.

Combinations to be avoided:

The following are the combinations that are to be avoided as their program outcomes and overall course outcomes mostly overlap.

B.Tech +BCA

BSc CS + BCA

MSc CS + MCA

M.Tech + MCA

M.Tech +MSc


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