

UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI



Syllabus for the
Program: B.Sc. Interdisciplinary Science
Course: FOUNDATION COURSE
Semester I & II

**(Credit Based Semester and Grading System with
Effect from the academic year 2014-2015)**

Preamble

As per the perspective plan of the University which was approved by the Management Council on 11th September 2013 & subsequently by the Academic Council on 19th September 2013, University of Mumbai is going to offer B.Sc. Interdisciplinary programme under the category of Innovative programmes from the academic year 2014-2015. The main objective of this course is to make the learner well versed with all science disciplines as science graduate so that he/she can have scope in schools, banks or any offices as well as they can persue post graduation in the major subject.

The Rational:

The basic thoughts and understanding in the programme of BSc with interdisciplinary science is, many or around 60 % students after their graduation leave higher education and opt for jobs. These jobs are in Government offices, Municipal Corporations, private companies or, in schools as teachers. They are absorbed as science graduates. Even when the students opt for management carriers they are considered as science graduates at entry level. Thus the specialization or the major subject does not have relevance unless the students want to pursue the carrier in the field of research or higher education. Similarly those who enter in jobs of teachers find it difficult to teach other science subjects as required, than the subject of specialization, because they are not exposed to those branches of science.

With all these requirements of job market University has decided to introduce the graduation course in science as BSc interdisciplinary science. In this a learner can take two subjects from science discipline at first year level, from among these one subject can be selected at Second Year and the same will be continued as major subject along with applied component for final year B. Sc. The learner will earn 70 credits as explained in this subject like the existing system. In first year instead of the third subject the learner can opt any subject from the prescribed modules and as per the availability in the college / institute where admitted. These modules can be called as interdisciplinary modules. At the second year level instead of the second minor subject the learner can opt the modules from the interdisciplinary modules. The foundation course is also modified for interdisciplinary science which includes topics like Law, Economics, Sociology, Political Science etc.

Thus the learner will earn 70 credits in the major subject as obtained by any student in current traditional method. The remaining 50 credits can be earned from the interdisciplinary courses. The modules of interdisciplinary courses can be from science branches or arts / commerce / law / fine arts branches.

The foundation course syllabus is also modified accordingly. To suit to other subjects and as per the need of Interdisciplinary nature of the subject the topics like political science, social elements, disparity, Ecology , Human rights, Indian constitution are added in the syllabus.

Course:-Foundation Course Syllabus

For Credit Based Semester and Grading System
To be implemented form the Academic year 2014-2015

SEMESTER I

Course Code	Unit	Topics	Credits	L/Week
USIDFC 01	I	Overview of Indian Society	3	3
	II	Concept of Disparity- 1		
	III	Concept of Disparity-2		
	IV	The Indian Constitution:		
	V	Significant Aspects of Political Processes		
	VI	Growing Social Problems in India		

SEMESTER II

Course Code	Unit	Topics	Credits	L/Week
USID--02	I	Globalisation and Indian Society	2	3
	II	Human Rights		
	III	Ecology		
	IV	Understanding and Managing Stress and Conflict		
	V	Communication Skills		

SYLLABUS SEMESTER I

Course Code	Credits
USIDFC01	2 Credits (45 Lectures)
<p>Unit I :Overview of Indian Society:</p> <p>Understand the multi-cultural diversity of Indian society through its demographic composition:</p> <p>Population distribution according to religion, caste, and gender;</p> <p>Understand regional variations according to rural, urban and tribal characteristics and indigenous sciences.</p>	<p>Lectures</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em;">5</p>
<p>Unit II: Concept of Disparity- 1</p> <p>Understand the concept of disparity as arising out of stratification and inequality;</p> <p>Explore the disparities arising out of gender with special reference to violence against women, female foeticide (declining sex ratio), and portrayal of women in media;</p> <p>Appreciate the inequalities faced by people with disabilities and understand the issues of people with physical and mental disabilities.</p>	<p>Lectures</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em;">10</p>
<p>Unit III: Concept of Disparity-2:</p> <p>Examine inequalities manifested due to the caste system and inter-group conflicts arising thereof;</p> <p>Understand inter-group conflicts arising out of communalism; Examine the causes and effects of conflicts arising out of regionalism and linguistic differences.</p>	<p>Lectures</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em;">10</p>

<p>Unit IV: The Indian Constitution:</p> <p>Philosophy of the Constitution as set out in the Preamble;</p> <p>Basic features of the Constitution.</p> <p>Fundamental Duties of the Indian Citizen; tolerance, peace and communal harmony as crucial values in strengthening the social fabric of Indian society;</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>Unit V: Significant Aspects of Political Processes:</p> <p>The party system in Indian politics;</p> <p>Local self-government in urban and rural areas; the 73rd and 74th Amendments and their implications for inclusive politics;</p> <p>Role and significance of women in politics.</p> <p>Participation of youth in politics.</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>Unit VI: Growing Social Problems in India:</p> <p>a) Substance abuse- impact on youth & challenges for the future</p> <p>b) HIV/AIDS- awareness, prevention, treatment and services</p> <p>c) Problems of the elderly- causes, implications and response</p> <p>d) Issue of child labour- magnitude, causes, effects and response</p> <p>e) Child abuse- effects and ways to prevent</p> <p>f) Trafficking of women- causes, effects and response</p>	<p>15</p>

Note:

15 lectures will be allotted for project guidance

Unit Number 6 will not be assessed for the Semester End Exam

SYLLABUS SEMESTER II

Course Code	Credits
USIDFC02	2 Credits (45 Lectures)
<p>Unit I: Globalisation and Indian Society:</p> <p>Understanding the concepts of liberalization, privatization and globalization;</p> <p>Impact of globalization on industry: FDI, changes in employment and increasing migration;</p> <p>Changes in agrarian sector due to globalization; rise in corporate farming and increase in farmers' suicides.</p>	<p>Lectures</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7</p>
<p>Unit II: Human Rights</p> <p>Concept of Human Rights; origin and evolution of the concept;</p> <p>The Universal Declaration of Human Rights;</p> <p>Human Rights constituents with special reference to Fundamental Rights stated in the Constitution</p>	<p>Lectures</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10</p>
<p>Unit III: Ecology</p> <p>Environment as natural capital and connection to quality of human life;</p> <p>Threats to the environment arising from extinction, loss of habitat, degradation of environment. Pollution and climate change.</p> <p>Sustainable development- concept and components; poverty and environment.</p> <p>Environment and daily life (Eco Tips).</p>	<p>Lectures</p>

(10 lectures	
<p>Unit IV: Understanding and Managing Stress and Conflict:</p> <p>Stress and Stress Management.</p> <p>Conflicts and Coping Mechanisms; Conflicts at individual and societal levels.</p> <p>Significance of values and ethics towards building peace and harmony.</p>	10
<p>Unit V: Communication Skills:</p> <p>Effective listening: Importance and features.</p> <p>Verbal and Non-verbal communication with special reference to body language.</p> <p>Barriers to effective communication.</p> <p>Public speaking and presentation skills.</p>	8
<p>Unit VI: Contemporary Societal Challenges:</p> <p>a) Increasing urbanization, problems of housing, health and sanitation;</p> <p>b) Changing lifestyles and impact on culture in a globalised world.</p> <p>c) Land acquisition and alienation.</p> <p>d) Debate regarding Genetically Modified Crops.</p> <p>e) Development projects and Human Rights violations.</p> <p>f) Increasing crime/suicides among youth.</p>	15

Note:

15 lectures will be allotted for project guidance

Unit Number 6 will not be assessed for the Semester End Exam

PROJECT

Course Code	Credits
USID--P1	1 Credit
PRACTICAL COURSE	

Course Code	Credits
USID--P2	1 Credit

Semester I and II Courses

At the F Y B. SC Innovative Program Examinations

The student will be assessed on the basis of Internal Assessment of 40 marks and a Semester End

Exam of 60 marks. The student will have to secure a minimum of 40% marks in aggregate and a

minimum of 40% in each component of assessment i.e. 16 out of 40 in Internal Assessment and 24

out of 60 in Semester End Exam.

Internal Assessment:

- There will be **two** mid-semester tests of 10 marks each; the first test will be on Units 1 and 2;

the second test will be on Units 3 and 4.

- The tests will, as far as possible, comprise of objective questions, short notes or case studies.

- The student will have to submit an assignment/project before appearing for the Semester

End Exam for 10 marks. This assignment/project will be entirely based on Unit 6 and can

take the form of street-plays, posters, power-point presentations, etc.

- 10 marks will be allotted to overall participation, etc. as per the norms of the credit system

- Unit 6 will not be included in the Semester End Exam.

Semester End Exam:

- There will be a Semester End Exam for 60 marks of 2 hours duration.

- Question No. 1, 2 and 3 will be Full-length questions for 15 marks each; there will be an

internal choice in each of these questions requiring the students to answer one of two questions asked.

- Full-length questions will be from Units 2, 3, 4 and 5 only.
- Question No. 4 will be of the Short Note type where each Short Note will be for 3 marks

each. Students will be required to answer 5 out of 8 Short Notes.

- Short note questions will be from Units 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.
- Unit 1 will not feature in the Full-length questions but will be asked only in the form of Short Note questions.

NOTE: All other rules regarding Standard of Passing, ATKT, etc., will be as per those decided by the Faculty of Science and passed by the Academic Council from time to time.

Reading List

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