

**TEACHERS' UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION  
PROGRAMME PROJECT REPORT (PPR)**

**TRADITIONAL PROGRAMS AT CTU**

**(BA ECONOMICS)**

## **(BA ECONOMICS)**

### **Programme Project Report**

Teachers university with the vision of providing the opportunity for quality education to all realms of society. The aim of university is to start Bachelor in Economics is to create to improve their academic qualification which motivate them to move to higher grades (add to vertical mobility) in their profession.

#### **1. Programme's Mission & Objectives**

In line with the mission of the University, to provide flexible learning opportunities to all, particularly to those who could not join regular colleges or universities owing to social, economic and other constraints, the Degree Programme in Economics (BA), offered in the Open and Distance Education Mode aims at providing good quality education at affordable fee. It is also suitable for those who are already employed to improve their academic qualification which motivate them to move to higher grades (add to vertical mobility) in their profession. The various objectives are discussed below

. Having a graduation in Economics opens opportunity for higher learning in management (MBA), Law etc, besides being the primary requirement if one plans to do advanced courses in Economics (PG and Research).

The specific objectives of the Programme are:

- (i). To provide an opportunity to those who are already employed in different professions to improve their chances of progressing to higher positions in their job.
- (ii). To cater to those who could not procure admission in a Regular Programme offered by colleges affiliated to the University due to various reasons (such as non-availability of colleges within convenient distance, failure to obtain required cut off mark at the qualifying examination to apply in regular colleges, lack of required financial capability, and urgency to work and support family)
- (iii). To help in the creation and development of manpower that would provide intellectual leadership to the community and in the process make available required manpower to the industry and service sector as well as in government service.

## **2. Relevance of the Programme with Mission and Goals**

The Course is relevant for three sets of students. The first set includes those who want to pursue higher studies like a regular PG course in Economics, Management etc., or going a step further to Research. The second set of students look upon the Course as a means of entering better avenues of employment. The third category consists of those who are already employed, to improve vertical mobility.

In congruence with goals of the University, the Programme envisages at providing skilled manpower to the professional, industrial and service sectors in the country so as to meet domestic and global demands. The Programme also aims at making students fit for taking up various jobs and to initiate and run self-employment ventures. All the core papers taught in the Regular Course in affiliated colleges of the University are available as such. Under the Choice Based Credit and Semester pattern students have reasonable choice with regard to Open, Elective and Complementary subjects.

## **3. Nature of Prospective Target Group of Learners:**

The BA Course offered under the Open and Distance mode is in every sense comparable to the three year full time choice-based credit and semester system which is in operation in regular colleges. It is more flexible and can be very useful to students with special difficulty (due to financial backwardness and those living in rural areas that do not have regular colleges). This course aims at inculcating essential skills as demanded by the industry and service sectors. The curriculum has been designed to cater to the emerging needs of the economy and society. The syllabus has been developed to offer sufficient breadth and depth in the main subject so that those who wish to continue in academic line will have no problem adjusting to the demands of PG in Economics or Research in the subject. As only a small percentage of the aspirants who wish to attend a degree course in Economics in Gujarat are being accommodated in the regular mode through colleges. It is hoped that the Programme offered through the distance mode of the university will be a boon for those who could not join regular colleges owing to social, economic and other constraints such as eligibility for enrolment, age of entry, time and place etc.

In the recent period, a large number of self-financing institutions have come up to serve those who could not get admission in regular colleges; but these are unaffordable to the poor and lower middle-class families. The Open and Distance mode of courses are also likely to bring more women into higher education as many parents don't like to send their daughters to colleges which are situated at a considerable distance from home.

## **4. Appropriateness of Programme to be conducted in Open and Distance Learning Mode to acquire specific skills and competence**

The Self Learning Material (SLM) for the Programme has been developed keeping in mind the needs and special difficulties of the said categories of learners ensuring that it is self-explanatory, self-contained, comprehensive and simple. The norms and guidelines suggested in the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning) Regulations, 2018 such as the

background of the learner and learning needs, learning experiences, and support and preparation in adapting to flexible learning have been strictly adhered to during the planning period of developing SLM. The ingredients considered while developing SLMs include: (a) Learning Objectives (b) Assessment of prior knowledge (c) Learning activities (d) Feedback of learning activities (e) Examples and illustrations (f) Self-assessment tests (g) Summaries and key points (h) Study tips etc.

The Programme could be considered appropriate to be conducted in ODL mode to acquire specific skills and competence for the following reasons:

- 1) The specific skill and competencies required for a B.A graduate can be imparted to a great extent through SLMs that are self-explanatory, self-contained and self motivating.
- 2) Large volume of study material on the various courses under the B.A Degree Programme is available on the internet or websites of the UGC or Universities in the form of notes in Word/PDF format, PPTs, Videos etc. Information on them can be provided during the counselling hours earmarked per Course. There is some variation in hours allocated for papers as some of them like Econometrics and Mathematical Economics may require practice sessions.
- 3) The Programme stresses the application of theory to practice through the use of quantitative techniques. Fair amount of training will be given in execution of project work, case studies, presentations and practical assignments
- 4) Necessary library materials will be provided to students. Though students of Open and Distance Course cannot be granted membership of the university library they will be allowed to refer books and make use of the online resources in the library. An ID card will be issued to students which will enable them to access resources in the university library.

## **5. Instructional Design**

### **5.1 Curriculum Design**

The University is revising the curriculum and syllabi of its BA Economics Programme (regular) once in every three years to ensure that the content is updated to reflect current academic knowledge and practice, and also to ensure that the University provide the best learning experiences possible for students. As part of curriculum design, a curriculum and syllabus revision workshop is organized which consider improvements in curriculum to reflect latest developments in the subject. In this context, the committee identifies what are the specific needs, translates the needs into course after splitting the broad objectives into specific objectives, groups the specific objectives into subjects, derives the subjects from the classification, specifies enabling objectives, unitizing each subject matter and specifies required time for syllabus formulation. The curriculum of BA Economics has been prepared by considering the challenges of offering the Programme through distant mode. The curriculum and syllabus of BA Economics delivered in Distance mode is same as the Programme of the regular Course.

The BA Economics Course is designed in such a way that students have considerable choice in selection of papers. Choice Based Credit and Semester System which is followed for

regular course is available to the students who register for the Open and Distance Education Course. For each Core paper offered, 16 hours of contact class is arranged at each of the different Centres. The University will appoint sufficient number of well-qualified full-time faculty for conducting such classes. Students are required to submit assignments and appear for test papers to be able to pass internal examination for which 20 percent of marks are earmarked.