

Programme Project Report [Bengali]

Programme's Mission and Objectives: The objective of the postgraduate academic programme in Bengali is to familiarise the students with the literature of Bengal spanning from 10th to 20th century including a detailed history of ancient and pre-modern Bengali literature, Linguistics, Tagore literature and modern Bengali literature with special emphasis on women's studies, social, cultural and political context of literature, and evolution of Western and Indian schools of aesthetics with an orientation of modern literary approach.

Relevance of the Programme with HEI's Mission and Goals: Rabindra Bharati University is named after the famous Bengali poet, Rabindranath Tagore and the first campus of the university was situated at the ancestral house of the maestro. Naturally, the university devotes itself to circulating the humanitarian ideals of Tagore among its learners. Thus, besides carrying out the traditional responsibilities of a higher educational institution, Rabindra Bharati University efforts to instill the humanitarian lessons of Tagore in the minds of the young learners through a curriculum soaked in the philosophy of universalism as propounded by Tagore through the oeuvre of literature that he produced. The department of Bengali has designed a syllabus for the postgraduate academic programme in Bengali keeping in mind this stated objective of the university. Moreover, the courses on ancient, pre-modern and modern histories of Bengali literature offered on its syllabus will help the learners get deeply acquainted with the rich literary and cultural past of Bengal which is also the stated objective of the university.

Nature of prospective target group of learners: The programme in Bengali is attended mainly by learners from financially backward communities in the state. Another significant trend is female students have outnumbered male students in the department of Bengali in the last few years. Considering this nature of the target group of learners, the department of Bengali has put enough emphasis on women and marginality studies on its syllabus.

Appropriateness of programme to be conducted in Open and Distance Learning mode to acquire specific skills and competence: The proposed programme intends to enable its learners to acquire skills and competencies in not only the subject concerned but also in allied fields of study. It also aims at helping the learners develop proper understanding of the subject, go beyond the specified borders of the subject concerned and explore professional and occupational opportunities in the field. The expected outcome of the proposed programme includes enhancing professional competencies of the learners, better understanding of critically nuanced texts and gaining expertise in handling inter-disciplinary issues in a masterly way.

Instructional Design: The programme is offered in semester mode. Keeping the objectives of the programme in view, the syllabus has been structured to include 20 courses in theory of 50 marks each, with 20% weightage on internal assessment (detailed syllabi attached herewith). The proposed programme would be spread over four semesters for the duration of two years. Each semester contains five courses each and credits are assigned in accordance with the guidelines of the UGC regulations, 2017. Mode of delivery of instructions is through face-to-face interaction, academic projects and continuous evaluation.

Procedure for admissions, curriculum transaction and evaluation: UGC rules in this regard will be strictly followed. No lacuna in this regard shall be encouraged by the university.

Requirement of the laboratory support and Library Resources: The University has a well-accomplished Central Library wherefrom the learners can issue books according to their needs. Besides that, the distance campus of the university also has a well-kept library which the learners can make full use of. They are free to use the internet facilities provided to them by the university to avail more number of academic materials relevant to their subject. The programme in Bengali does not need laboratory assistance as it does not offer any practical component in its curriculum.

Cost estimate of the programme and the provisions: This programme has been on offer in the regular mode since 1962 and in ODL mode since 2012. As such, the cost of development and maintenance of the programme has been incurred for long time hence. However, the syllabus of the programme is being revised and semesterised in ODL mode since the session 2017- 2018. An amount of rupees 42 lacs for the session 2017-2018 is estimated to be spent and assigned for development of SLMs, printing and delivery of the same to the learners.

Quality assurance mechanism and expected programme outcomes: In order to ensure the quality of education imparted to the learners and enhance the standards of curriculum, the university has formed a Subject Committee for the programme in Bengali offered through the distance mode. The Subject Committee is made of subject experts from not only within the university but also from various other universities in the state. The said committee provides the university authority with constructive academic inputs from time to time. Apart from this, the university is also ready to constitute the CIQA (Centre for Internal Quality Assurance) in terms of provisions contained in the UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017 to monitor the effectiveness of the programme. These measures are expected to enhance the accountability of the programme and also to help it meet the professional requirements of the field.


(DEBDATTA ROY)
Registrar (Acting)
Rabindra Bharati University
Kolkata