

Programme Project Report [English]

Programme's Mission and Objectives: The objectives of the postgraduate academic programme in English, on the one hand, are to accentuate the intellectual curiosity of the students, to motivate them to develop skills in critically informed writing, to acquaint students more deeply with the whole gamut of relevant issues and theoretical postulates belonging to the discipline of literatures in English, and on the other, to seek to use this academic exercise as a platform for engaging in interdisciplinary studies.

Relevance of the Programme with HEI's Mission and Goals: The HEI aims at circulating the humanistic ideals of Rabindranath Tagore among its learners. The objectives of the university include optimum utilization of university resources and means for developing knowledge-based society and promotion of educational and cultural well-being of the community. The objective of the proposed programme in English goes perfectly well with the general objectives of the university as alongside offering traditional texts of English literature, the department offers courses keeping in mind the practical needs of the fast-changing demands of the academic world on its syllabus.

Nature of prospective target group of learners: Rabindra Bharati University caters mainly to the socially and economically marginalized sections of the state. Also, the largest section of the learners' community is comprised of female learners. Considering this background of the learners, the university has designed its curriculum in such a way that it transcends the limits of conventional educational system and touches upon issues that affect the lives of the above-mentioned categories the most. The postgraduate academic programme in English extends its fullest cooperation to the university by designing a syllabus that conforms to the overall spirit and the declared objective of the university.

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 fostering generic transferrable skills and competencies, better understanding of critically nuanced texts and gaining expertise in handling inter-disciplinary issues in a mature 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: No deviation from the guidelines of the UGC in this regard shall be encouraged by the university. All relevant instructions regarding admission, curriculum transaction and evaluation issued by the UGC from time to time shall be strictly observed.

Requirement of the laboratory support and Library Resources: Learners under both regular and distance mode are free to access books, journals, literary magazines etc from the Central Library of the university. The distance campus of the university also has a fully-furnished library which the learners can make full use of. Besides that, the university provides Wi-Fi connection to its learners to help them access expensive books and other study materials online, absolutely free of cost. Since the programme in English does not offer practical component on its syllabus, and since it does not contain any paper on Language Studies, laboratory assistance is not necessary for this programme.

Cost estimate of the programme and the provisions: This programme has been on offer in the regular mode since 1963 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 18 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 addition to the existing mechanism of improvement in quality of the programme, the CIQA is in the process of being constituted as per UGC regulations, 2017. However, the works relating to review of programme, continuous enhancement of the standard of curriculum and change in instructional design, if required, have been carried out by the Subject Committee of the department consisting of both internal and external experts.


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