

Programme Project Report [History]

Programme's Mission and Objectives: The postgraduate academic programme in History, on the one hand, intends to make students well-acquainted with the diverse aspects of social, political, economical and cultural history of different regions of the world, and on the other, to disseminate among the students knowledge about different trends of latest research in the relevant fields of study and to foster a disposition of critical analysis and insight among them.

Relevance of the Programme with HEI's Mission and Goals: The postgraduate academic programme in History under distance mode seeks to aid the learners in developing the skills necessary for historical research and analysis. It also intends to cultivate in the learners the skills they need to become critical and independent thinkers and citizens which will provide a solid basis for their future intellectual life.

Nature of prospective target group of learners: Rabindra Bharati University caters mainly to the socially and economically marginalised sections of the state. Also, a major section of the learners' community is comprised of female learners. Added to this, the programme in History offered through the distance mode also targets those learners who had to leave formal studies due to several reasons including inability to attend regular classes due to professional and other engagements. In order to make the programme attractive to all the above-mentioned communities of learners, the Department of History has designed a curriculum useful and viable for all of them.

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 producing a group of learners who would be leading their respective communities in future, enhancing professional competencies, fostering among the learners better understanding of not only the subject concerned but also contemporary socio-political issues, and inculcating among the learners research aptitude.


Instructional Design: The programme is offered in annual mode at present. Keeping the objectives of the programme in view, the syllabus has been structured to include eight papers in theory of 100 marks each, with 20% weightage on internal assessment (detailed syllabi attached herewith). The proposed programme is conducted over two years in two parts. Exam and evaluation is being done in annual mode at the end of term I and term II. As and when semesterised, the proposed programme would be spread over four semesters for the duration of two years. Mode of delivery of instructions is through face-to-face interaction 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 History does not offer practical component on its syllabus, laboratory assistance is not necessary to run this programme.

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 to be implemented during the academic session the session 2018- 2019. However, an amount of rupees 25 lacs per annum is assigned at present for delivery and maintenance activities.

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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