

चार वर्षांच्या पदवी अभ्यासक्रमातील (NEP-2020 अन्वये) चौथ्या वर्षाच्या ऑनर्स व ऑनर्स विथ रिसर्च अभ्यासक्रमासाठी मार्गदर्शक तत्त्वे निर्गमित करण्याबाबत.

महाराष्ट्र शासन
उच्च व तंत्र शिक्षण विभाग
शासन निर्णय क्रमांक: संकीर्ण-२०२६/ई-१६०९७२२/विशि-३
मादाम कामा मार्ग, हुतात्मा राजगुरु चौक,
४ था मजला, मंत्रालय विस्तार, मुंबई ४०० ०३२
दिनांक : ०६ एप्रिल, २०२६

- संदर्भ:-** (१) उच्च व तंत्र शिक्षण विभाग, शासन निर्णय क्र. एनईपी-२०२२/प्र.क्र.०९/विशि-३/ शिकाना, दि. २०.०४.२०२३
(२) उच्च व तंत्र शिक्षण विभाग, शासन निर्णय क्र. एनईपी-२०२२/प्र.क्र.०९/विशि-३/ शिकाना, दि. १६.०५.२०२३
(३) उच्च व तंत्र शिक्षण विभाग, शासन निर्णय क्र. एनईपी-२०२२/(६७/२३)/तांशि-२/ शिकाना, दि. ०४.०७.२०२३
(४) अध्यक्ष, महाराष्ट्र राज्य शैक्षणिक व संशोधन परिषद (MahaSARC) यांचा दि. २७.०३.२०२६ रोजीचा ई-मेल संदेश

प्रस्तावना:-

राष्ट्रीय शिक्षण धोरण २०२० ची प्रभावी अंमलबजावणी करण्याच्या अनुषंगाने उच्च शिक्षण व्यवस्थेत लवचिकता, बहुपर्यायी प्रवेश व निर्गमन व्यवस्था, तसेच कौशल्याधिष्ठित व संशोधनाभिमुख शिक्षणाला चालना देण्यासाठी पदवी अभ्यासक्रमांची पुनर्रचना करण्यात आलेली आहे. त्यानुषंगाने शासन निर्णय, दिनांक २०.०४.२०२३, १६.०५.२०२३ व शासन निर्णय, दि. ०४.०७.२०२३ अन्वये तीन वर्षीय/चार वर्षीय पदवी अभ्यासक्रम, पदव्युत्तर अभ्यासक्रम तसेच अभियांत्रिकी शिक्षणासाठी क्रेडिट फ्रेमवर्क निश्चित करण्यात आले आहे.

सदर शासन निर्णयांमध्ये नमूद तरतुदीनुसार शैक्षणिक वर्ष २०२६-२७ पासून चार वर्षांच्या पदवी अभ्यासक्रमातील चौथे वर्ष (ऑनर्स व ऑनर्स विथ रिसर्च) लागू करण्याचे नियोजित असून, राज्यातील सर्व विद्यापीठे व संलग्न/स्वायत्त महाविद्यालयांमध्ये या अभ्यासक्रमाची सुसूत्र, प्रभावी व एकसमान अंमलबजावणी सुनिश्चित करण्याची आवश्यकता आहे. त्यानुषंगाने महासार्कने मार्गदर्शक तत्त्वे तयार करून सर्व कुलगुरु व प्र-कुलगुरु यांना पाठविली. त्यांच्याकडून प्राप्त सूचना विचारात घेऊन महाराष्ट्र राज्य शैक्षणिक व संशोधन परिषदेने (MahaSARC) सदर अभ्यासक्रमांसाठीची सुधारीत मार्गदर्शक तत्त्वे तयार केली. त्यानुसार अध्यक्ष, महाराष्ट्र राज्य शैक्षणिक व संशोधन

परिषद यांनी सदर मार्गदर्शक सूचना लागू करण्याबाबतचा ठराव संदर्भ क्र. ४ येथील ई-मेल संदेशान्वये शासनास सादर केला आहे.

महाराष्ट्र राज्य शैक्षणिक व संशोधन परिषद यांच्याकडून प्राप्त मार्गदर्शक सूचनांच्या ठरावास अनुसरून चौथ्या वर्षातील ऑनर्स व ऑनर्स विथ रिसर्च कार्यक्रमाच्या अंमलबजावणीसंदर्भात आवश्यक त्या मार्गदर्शक सूचना निर्गमित करण्याची बाब शासनाच्या विचाराधीन होती.

शासन निर्णय:-

राष्ट्रीय शिक्षण धोरण २०२० च्या प्रभावी अंमलबजावणीच्या अनुषंगाने शैक्षणिक वर्ष २०२६-२७ पासून चार वर्षांच्या पदवी अभ्यासक्रमातील चौथे वर्ष (ऑनर्स व ऑनर्स विथ रिसर्च) लागू करण्यास शासन मान्यता देण्यात येत आहे. त्यानुसार राज्यातील सर्व सार्वजनिक विद्यापीठे व संलग्न/ स्वायत्त महाविद्यालयांमध्ये चौथ्या वर्षाच्या ऑनर्स व ऑनर्स विथ रिसर्च अभ्यासक्रमाची सुसूत्र, प्रभावी व एकसमान अंमलबजावणी सुनिश्चित करण्यासाठी आवश्यक त्या मार्गदर्शक सूचना सोबत जोडलेल्या प्रपत्र-अ मध्ये विहित करण्यात येत आहेत.

२. सदर मार्गदर्शक सूचना महाराष्ट्र सार्वजनिक विद्यापीठ अधिनियम-२०१६ मधील कलम ५ (८१) मधील तरतूदीनुसार निर्गमित करण्यात येत आहेत.
३. या मार्गदर्शक सूचनांच्या अंमलबजावणीबाबतचा आढावा शासनामार्फत सुकाणू समितीच्या माध्यमातून वेळोवेळी घेण्यात येईल.
४. सदर शासन निर्णय महाराष्ट्र शासनाच्या www.maharashtra.gov.in या संकेतस्थळावर उपलब्ध करण्यात आला असून त्याचा संकेतांक २०२६०४०६१९४४१२८३०८ असा आहे. सदर निर्णय डिजीटल स्वाक्षरीने साक्षांकित करून काढण्यात येत आहे.

महाराष्ट्राचे राज्यपाल यांच्या आदेशानुसार व नावाने.

(प्रताप पां. लुबाळ)
उप सचिव, महाराष्ट्र शासन

प्रति:-

१. मा. राज्यपाल यांचे सचिव, लोकभवन, मलबार हिल मुंबई,
२. मा. मुख्यमंत्री यांचे अपर मुख्य सचिव, मंत्रालय, मुंबई,

३. मा. उपमुख्यमंत्री तथा मंत्री (नगरविकास, गृहनिर्माण) यांचे अपर मुख्य सचिव, मंत्रालय, मुंबई,
४. मा. उपमुख्यमंत्री तथा मंत्री (राज्य उत्पादन शुल्क, क्रीडा व युवक कल्याण, अल्पसंख्यांक कल्याण आणि ओकाफ) यांचे सचिव, मंत्रालय, मुंबई.
५. मा. मंत्री, उच्च व तंत्र शिक्षण विभाग, यांचे खाजगी सचिव, मंत्रालय, मुंबई.
६. मा. राज्यमंत्री, उच्च व तंत्र शिक्षण विभाग, यांचे खाजगी सचिव, मंत्रालय, मुंबई.
७. अपर मुख्य सचिव, उच्च व तंत्र शिक्षण विभाग, मंत्रालय, मुंबई.
८. राज्य प्रकल्प संचालक, राष्ट्रीय उच्चतर शिक्षा अभियान (रुसा), मुंबई तथा संयोजन व उपाध्यक्ष, महासार्क
९. संचालक, उच्च शिक्षण/तंत्र शिक्षण/कला, पुणे/मुंबई
१०. सर्व सह सचिव/उप सचिव, उच्च व तंत्र शिक्षण विभाग, मंत्रालय, मुंबई.
११. कुलसचिव, सर्व सार्वजनिक विद्यापीठे, महाराष्ट्र राज्य.
१२. सर्व विभागीय सहसंचालक, उच्च शिक्षण/तंत्र शिक्षण, महाराष्ट्र राज्य
१३. निवडनस्ती (विशि-३)

उच्च व तंत्र शिक्षण विभाग
(शासन निर्णय, क्रमांक: संकीर्ण-२०२६/ई-१६०९७२२/विशि-३
दि. ०६ एप्रिल, २०२६ सोबतचे सहपत्र)
प्रपत्र-अ

Guidelines for Fourth Year Honours and Fourth Year Honours with Research Program with effect from Academic Year 2026-27.

The detail guidelines given under Curricular Framework and Degree Nomenclature, as governed by G.R. No. NEP-2022 /CR No. 09/VISHI-3 dated April 20, 2023 (Credit Framework under Three/Four-Years UG Programme with Multiple Entry and Multiple Exit options for All Non-AICTE non-professional UG degree programs), G.R. No. NEP-2022 /CR No. 09/VISHI-3 dated May 16, 2023 (Credit Framework for PG Curriculum for All Non-AICTE non-professional PG degree programs) and G.R. No. NEP-2022 /CR No. 09/VISHI-3 dated July 04, 2023 (Credit Framework for UG Engineering Education with Multiple Entry and Multiple Exit options) forms the basis of design of Fourth Year Honours and Fourth Year Honours with Research Program.

The 4-year Non-AICTE non-professional UG programme is structured into eight semesters, offering two primary pathways after the third year:

i. 4-Year UG Degree with Honours (6 Verticals: 1. Major or Core, 2. Multidisciplinary Minor, 3. Open Electives, 4. Vocational and Skill Enhancement Courses, 5. AEC, VEC & IKS, 6. Cocurricular Courses, OJT, FP, CEP)

: Awarded to those students who complete 160–176 credits successfully over four years with a specific focus on their Major subject and additional 4 Credits of Internship during Fourth Year.

ii. 4-Year UG Degree Honours with Research (6 Verticals: 1. Major or Core, 2. Multidisciplinary Minor, 3. Open Electives, 4. Vocational and Skill Enhancement Courses, 5. AEC, VEC & IKS, 6. Cocurricular Courses, OJT, FP, CEP, RP)

: Awarded to those students who complete successfully a rigorous research project or dissertation of 12 Credits in their Major Subject area during the 4th year.

The relevant sub-sections of Section 2 (Credit Framework under Three/Four-Years UG Programme with Multiple Entry and Multiple Exit options) dealing with four year UG Honours and Honours with Research Program of G.R. No. NEP-2022 /CR No. 09/VISHI-3 dated April 20, 2023 are as follows:

(b) With effect from Academic Year 2023-24, three years/four years Degree Program will be introduced. Thus, the Fourth year Honours/ Honours with Research program (Level 6.0) will begin with effect from Academic Year 2026-27.

(c) Under four-year UG Degree (Honours with Research), the students will work on a research project or dissertation of 12 credits in the fourth year in the respective Major Subject. The decision regarding the distribution of 12 credits in Semester VII and VIII of fourth year will be taken by Academic Authorities of University/ Autonomous Colleges.

(d) The fourth year of the four-year UG programme will not be granted to any such college as 'natural growth'. The affiliated colleges conducting 3-year UG degree programme will seek permission to commence fourth year UG programme as extension by following the prevailing statutory procedures. However, Colleges already having permission and recognition for the PG degree programme along with UG degree programme in the same Major shall be automatically

allowed to continue PG degree programme and conduct the fourth year of UG Honours Degree programme without undergoing any additional procedures. Similarly, the colleges with approved PG programme and Ph.D. Research Centre shall be automatically allowed to continue PG Degree programme and start the fourth year of UG Honours with Research Degree programme without undergoing any additional procedures. For students of Colleges running only three year UG Degree Programme, the University shall evolve suitable mechanisms for admission to fourth-year honours program in other Colleges.

Section 8. Design of PG / Master's programmes (subsection f) of G.R. No. NEP-2022 /CR No. 09/VISHI-3 dated May 16, 2023 quotes as follows:

The curricular design of first year of two-year PG Programme will be aligned to that of fourth-year of four year Honours UG Degree Programmes (The fourth year of four years honors UG degree shall be identical in structure to the first year of two year PG programmes offered after three year UG programmes.). Research Methodology (aligned with seventh semester of fourth year of Honours and Honours with Research Degree of four year UG Programmes) and Internship of 4 credits (aligned with the eighth semester of the fourth year of Honors Degree of four year UG Programmes) shall be introduced in the first semester and in the second semester, respectively of first year of Two Year PG Programmes. Second Year PG Programmes will include Research Projects of 10-12 Credits divided uniformly over the third and fourth semester.

In continuation of above relevant sections of G.R. No. NEP-2022 /CR No. 09/VISHI-3 dated April 20, 2023 and G.R. No. NEP-2022 /CR No. 09/VISHI-3 dated May 16, 2023, following additional Guidelines are issued for the Smooth Implementation of 4th Year Honours and 4th Year Honours with Research Program

1. Eligibility for Students for admission to Fourth Year Honours Program

Credit Completion through first three years: Students must have successfully earned the required credits (typically around 120–132 credits) by the end of the third year.

2. Eligibility for Students and Definition of Intake/ Batch Size for admission to Fourth Year Honours with Research Program:

Credit Completion with specific CGPA: Students must typically obtain a specific CGPA of 7.5 while successfully earning the required credits (typically around 120–132 credits) by the end of the third year.

For 4th Year Honours with Research Program, the sanctioned Class Strength will depend upon the number of Recognised Ph. D. guides available in the concerned Subject. The Formula will be as follows:

Definition of Intake/ Batch Size: Sanctioned Intake = Number of Recognised PhD Guides × 5

3. Academic Bank of Credits (ABC): All students must be registered in the ABC portal to facilitate credit transfers and the multiple entry/exit system.

4. University Departments/ Schools/ Institutes shall start 4th year of UG Honours and 4th year of UG Honours with Research program automatically where students from affiliated/autonomous colleges can seek admission through the process defined for lateral entry.

5. Examination Pattern: Examinations will be conducted semester-wise, consisting of Comprehensive Continuous Evaluation (CCE) and Semester End Examination (SEE). Individual Universities shall decide the pattern of distribution between CCE and SEE.

6. Lateral Entry: Students may seek lateral entry into the 4th year at a different College or University Department where 4th Year Honours and 4th Year Honours with Research Program is already granted. Lateral entry into the programme of study leading to the Four-year Bachelor's Degree with Honours /Honours with Research will be based on the validation of prior learning outcomes achieved and subject to the availability based on the approved intake of that College/ University Department and the reservation policy of Government of Maharashtra. Individual Universities will define guidelines for Lateral Entry (Prerequisites, Supernumerary quota for lateral entry, Credit Transfer through ABC etc).

7. Online Courses: The UGC Regulations, 2021 permit up to 40% of the total courses being offered in a particular programme in a semester through the Online Learning Courses offered through the SWAYAM platform and as approved by the Statutory Bodies of individual Universities.

8. Mechanisms and Eligibility guidelines for approval of the starting of new 4th Year Honours and 4th Year Honours with Research Program: For those Colleges which do not have PG Program in concerned Major Subject or Ph D Research Centre in concerned Major Subject, Individual Universities shall evolve suitable mechanisms and develop additional Eligibility guidelines for approval of the starting of 4th Year Honours and 4th Year Honours with Research Program, respectively (PG in concerned Major Subject will be Mandatory for starting 4th Year Honours with Research Program). Following additional points may be taken as reference by individual Universities in defining these additional Eligibility guidelines:

i. 4th Year Honours Program: Only colleges that have the necessary infrastructure and approved faculty for the Major subject at the 400-level (Level 6.0) are eligible to start the 4th Year Honours program. Individual Universities will define guidelines in this regard through approval of their statutory bodies [guidelines in terms of Necessary Infrastructure, Valid NAAC grade and approved faculty (Minimum Discipline-wise Faculty Strength per batch) for starting new 4th Year Honours Program in those Colleges which doesn't have PG Program]

ii. 4th Year Honours with Research Program: Individual Universities will define guidelines with reference to Colleges intending to offer 4th Year Honours with Research which have UG and PG Program but no Ph D Research Centre in concerned Major Subject. The guidelines may include: minimum no of recognized Approved and Permanent Ph D Guides, evidence of Active research in the last 5 years, as indicated by Publications under Indexed Journal lists of SciFinder, Web of Science and Scopus and/or Ongoing or completed funded Research Projects, Dedicated Research Laboratories, Advance Instrumentation, and Allied Facilities (e.g. Good Library and Digital Resources/ Databases, Plagiarism detection software (Turnitin / Urkund), High-speed internet, Statistical / data analysis software, Power backup, safety equipment etc), Research Ethics and Integrity Policy and/or tie-ups with Recognised Research Institutions (CSIR National labs, IITs, IISERs, Recognized Industry R&D Labs) etc. Individual Universities will define guidelines in this regard through approval by their Statutory Bodies.

9. For the 4-year AICTE governed professional Engineering UG programme, G.R. No. NEP-2022 /CR No. 09/VISHI-3 dated July 04, 2023 (Credit Framework for UG Engineering Education with Multiple Entry and Multiple Exit options) forms the basis of design of Fourth Year Honours and Fourth Year

UG Engineering Program with Double Minor Program. **The UG Engg Curricular Framework as defined by this G.R. offers following pathways:**

i. B E/B Tech Program, Single Major, Single Multidisciplinary Minor (MDM)

7 Verticals: 1. Major or Programme Core, 2. Engg. and Sci Sub, 3. Multidisciplinary Minor (MDM), 4. Open Electives, 5. Vocational and Skill Enhancement Courses, 6. AEC, VEC & IKS, 7. Co-curricular Courses, OJT, FP, CEP, RP.

ii. B Tech/ B E Program, Single Major, Double Minor (MDM and Emerging Specialization Minor)

8 Verticals: 1. Major or Programme Core, 2. Engg. and Sci Sub, 3. MDM, 4. Emerging Specialization Minor (additional 18-20 Credits), 5. Open Electives, 6. Vocational and Skill Enhancement Courses, 7. AEC, VEC & IKS, 8. Co-curricular Courses, OJT, FP, CEP, RP.

iii. Honours B Tech/ B E Degree Program, Single MDM

7 Verticals: 1. Major or Programme Core (additional 18-20 Credits), 2. Engg. and Sci Sub, 3. MDM, 4. Open Electives, 5. Vocational and Skill Enhancement Courses, 6. AEC, VEC & IKS, 7. Co-curricular Courses, OJT, FP, CEP, RP.

(प्रताप पां. लुबाळ)
उप सचिव, महाराष्ट्र शासन