

CONCEPT NOTES OF ALL OPEN ELECTIVES (OE's)

(ODD SEMESTER 2023-2024)

OFFERED TO B.Sc & B.Sc (IT), B.COM & BAF STUDENTS BY ARTS DEPARTMENT

1. DEPARTMENT OF ANCIENT INDIAN CULTURE (AIC):

Tourism as an industry has several facets which provide opportunities to students to enhance themselves. This course will help in understanding management and organizational skills with field experiences. It will help in promoting cultural tourism and help in getting employment.

2. DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS:

A. INTRODUCTION TO INDIAN ECONOMY:

The course aims at various aspects of Indian economy and related issues. This will help students to understand the challenges and opportunities in the Indian economy. It starts with the Historical review of the Indian economy since 1947 and then covers the current issues in the economic development of the country with respect to Geopolitical situations. It also focuses on the process of Planning and Economic Development, NITI AYOOG. It will help students to understand the role and technicalities of monetary and fiscal policies in the process of economic reforms.

B. CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN INDIAN ECONOMY:

The course covers Internal and External Economic Institutions as well as Policy and Regulatory Framework. The Structural Development Issues Viz. Unplanned Urbanisation, Unemployment, Poverty, challenges due to Demographic Constraints and Remedial Measures. It also focuses on Sector wise Issues such as Climate Change and Food Security, Industrial Sector growth and sustainability with Energy Crisis, Technology Efficiency, Easy of Doing Business and the goal of Atma-Nirbhar Bharat.

3. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE:

A. INTRODUCTION TO JOINT STOCK COMPANY:

The 'Introduction to Joint Stock Company' course intends to make the learners become aware of the concept and process of incorporating a joint stock company and understand the various operational aspects of running a company. By the end of this course, learners are expected to realize their entrepreneurial potential and managerial capabilities through better clarity on the concepts of sources of capital and company

meetings. It helps to convey to the students an understanding of Joint Stock Companies with a view to providing an insight into modern business practices.

B. INVESTMENT ANALYSIS:

The aim of the ‘**Investment Analysis**’ course is to provide a conceptual framework for analysis from an investor’s perspective of the measures of risk and return in different investment products. Emphasis will be on the theoretical aspects of the Indian financial system with examples and references. The course is aimed at equipping students with relevant knowledge to evaluate investment advice from brokers and the media and eventually help in spreading financial literacy in society.

4. DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH:

INTERPRETING VISUAL ART WITHIN CULTURAL CONTEXTS:

According to Voltaire, “Every (wo)man is a creature of the age in which s/he lives and few are able to raise themselves above the ideas of the time.” To stretch this idea further, an artist is both the creature and the creator of the age in which s/he/they inhabit(s). Art thus cannot be severed from its ecosystem or context. This course enables students to interpret art embedded in diverse social frameworks and empowers them to read the multiple meanings that emerge from a given piece of art. It demonstrates the rationale behind the origin and growth of art movements and emboldens students to interrogate their own realities. It opens a creative outlet in any dire circumstance whether it is in the form of painting or photography or street art or graffiti. This skill to search for meanings in colour, dimensions and compositions will enhance the students’ ability to engage critically with multiple perspectives and opinions on a given topic. It will help them appreciate a more heterogeneous way of life rather than a monolithic and unidimensional one. This course aims at giving space to freshers in finding their voice through the discourse of art analysis and interpretation.

5. DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH:

FRENCH FOR BEGNNERS A1 LEVEL:

In today’s world with globalization and liberalization, knowledge of a foreign language is an asset and opens several avenues of employment and self-enrichment. The French department is offering a basic course for beginners based on the DELF pattern, i.e. developing French language abilities of non-native speakers of French. At the end of the course the students will be able to read and comprehend simple short texts in French, write and speak on day to day topics. They will also be listening to French in its standard accent spoken by native and non-native speakers. The course will use audio visual methods with emphasis on French songs and films. The students will also be introduced to French and francophone culture and civilization.

6. DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY:

A. DEMYSTIFYING MENTAL ILLNESS:

“And those who were seen dancing were thought to be insane by those who could not hear the music”-Friedrich Nietzsche

The **Demystifying Mental Illness** course is designed to give students an overview of common mental illnesses and sensitize them to the issues surrounding the management of these illnesses. By the end of the course, students will be able to challenge and dispel myths and misconceptions surrounding mental illness, and contribute towards destigmatizing it. Students will also get the opportunity to engage with representations of mental illness, institutions, and caregiving in the media. Using films, literature, social media blogs and news articles, they will examine, discuss, and learn to think critically about how mental illness is portrayed. They will be able to apply the knowledge and guidelines regarding mental health to seek appropriate help for themselves and support others.

B. PERSONAL GROWTH THROUGH VISUAL ART:

“A mandala is the psychological explanation of the totality of the self”-Carl Jung

The **Personal Growth Through Visual Art** course is designed to help students understand the role of visual art in personal exploration and the connections between arts, wellbeing and healing. Students will be encouraged to challenge and build visual narratives of selfhood with an awareness of their strengths and weaknesses. They will also explore visual arts initiatives related to mental health including aspects of mindfulness, mood mandala, music and bilateral drawing. By the end of the course, students will develop the reflexivity to organize everyday life and relationships to improve their subjective wellbeing. The teaching-learning experience includes activities for personal reflection and application.

7. DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY & ANTHROPOLOGY:

A. SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL CHANGE (SOCIOLOGY):

The course is aimed at sensitizing the first-year non-arts students to the broader social issues that impact the practitioners of science and technology. It encourages students to critically look at the inequalities in everyday life experiences when it comes to interfacing with the various applications of science and technology. The course opens up with the broader issues and controversies related to the concept of Intellectual property Rights (IPR). The diverse socio-cultural, economic and political implications of IPR are looked at through case studies. The syllabus moves onto the broader debates related to Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) in bringing

about widespread social transformation. Access to ICT with the purpose of empowering rural citizens, providing information about agricultural and off-farm livelihoods, delivering public services, and dissemination of educational and healthcare related information such as Government schemes, to the useability of app-based data, are topics which are opened up for critical reflection. The last topic of the syllabus deals with Bio-medical research and its Social Ramifications. Research on the human genome has raised important ethical and social questions such as, what genetic information should be generated, and who should control its dissemination and use? What genetic procedures should be employed? How will this new information change lives? Such and several other questions are raised through discussions in this unit which help the science students to review ‘breakthrough products and technologies’ and how they are or are not combating rare diseases, reducing our environmental footprint, addressing the issues of world hunger, and ensuring cleaner and more efficient industrial manufacturing processes.

B. NATURE, SOCIETY AND CONSERVATION (SOCIOLOGY):

How are nature, the natural environment and human society, history, and culture related? How do different kinds of human societies understand their environments, and how are peoples’ lives related to their environments? How is nature social? And, at a time of climate and planetary crisis, how can a critical understanding of human relationships with nature help us imagine nature and environmental protection through conservation strategies that are sustainable and mindful of human welfare?

Designed for undergraduate science students, the first unit of this course goes beyond high school-level environmental studies to introduce students to how nature, society and environment are conceptualized in contemporary social sciences such as history, sociology, anthropology, human geography, etc. In the second unit, students will be introduced to different approaches to conservation that are in use across the world today. Not only will they be encouraged to apply their understanding to appraise the various approaches to conservation, they will also need to write an assignment on a contemporary environmental crisis in India today, and the possible sustainable conservation solutions for such crises.

This intermediate-level course is an introduction to present-day thinking on nature, human society and conservation, and is an essential foundation for those interested in pursuing studies and careers related to environmental conservation.

C. INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY OF KNOWLEDGE (ANTHRO):

‘Introduction to Anthropology of Knowledge’ is the title of the 2-credit course being introduced. The course will be offered to undergraduate students from the physical and natural sciences in the first year (and first semester) of their study. This will be an open elective that allows for interdisciplinary ways of critically engaging with the idea of the “scientific method”. We begin by challenging the idea of the ‘linear history of the scientific method’ and how this was legitimized through the process of colonization. We also see the impact that the Enlightenment and the project of modernity have had on the way we conceptualize what constitutes knowledge. We go on to explore the theory around positivism and constructivism, ethnomethodology as a way of acquiring, exploring, and structuring knowledge, and Actor-Network theory to critically engage with the idea of agency in the scientific method. We then explore 3 fields/themes/areas – like Primatology and Haraway’s work, Agrarian/Farming communities and GM foods, and the most recent- Artificial Intelligence and the algorithm- that could be of interest to students from botany, zoology, chemistry, mathematics, and physics.

D. BODY, FITNESS, CULTURE: THE POLITICS OF CARE (ANTHRO):

This course intends to bring together the anthropological aspects of culture, medicine, health care, power, myths and science. From the perspective of medical anthropology with a new age perspective/twist of what the undergraduate student engages within their everyday life. The temptation is always to look at oneself in the mirror, indulge in fitness regimes because there are ‘facts’ to prove it has another side to it. The alternate side is one that gets the student to see fundamental principles of health care being challenged and to move from the individual perspective to societal perspective and vice versa. The manner in which we are getting submerged into a sea of (mis)information without questioning it is the bigger challenge we hope to unlearn.

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OFFERED TO B.A, B.Sc BAMCJ & B.Sc (IT) STUDENTS BY COMMERCE SECTION

A. FINANCIAL LITERACY & EDUCATION:

The course – ‘Financial Literacy and Education’ is a specially curated course to facilitate and educate a learner in matters of personal finance management. The course would facilitate understanding in easy manner terms like income, expenditure, savings & investment avenues, taxation, borrowing, managing risk, budgeting, etc. After learning this course, the learner is expected to reflect through actions on key financial literacy indicators while undertaking any financial commitment through eyes on financial planning both for short-term and long-term horizons.

This course on Financial literacy and Education not only develops the learner’s ability to assess dimensions of personal finance management but also offers insight into the nature of the financial instrument, liquidity, and risk elements as well. The course will offer perspective on trading in stocks and securities, estate planning, purchasing a property, and running a business as potential ways to grow personal net worth through case studies and a few illustrative problems and solutions.

B. INTRODUCTION TO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPRs):

This course has been designed to make the learner understand the domain of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) consisting of trademarks, copyright, patent, industrial design, geographical indicators, etc. their significance, and the mechanism to protect them.

This course on the introductory aspect of IPRs will offer general awareness as to different forms of IPR and comprehend the learner of ways they can protect it and continue to invest their time, efforts, and money in innovations, inventions through valued trademarks, patents, designs, etc. The process of various IPR registrations will upscale one’s understanding of how to commercially exploit an idea, concept, scientific research findings, etc. in the nature of the intellectual property and equally realize its full value of it by legal technology transfer/ franchise agreement. Thus in order to benefit commercially in the form of higher revenue, reputation, and market share, it is essential to have a proper Intellectual Property Management system in place which certainly ensures full commercial exploitation of business developments. Based on the understanding of fundamental knowledge, a learner can explore advanced knowledge in the field of IPRs.

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**OFFERED TO B.A, B.Sc, BAMCJ & B.Sc (IT) STUDENTS BY BAF
DEPARTMENT**

A. ACCOUNTING FOR EVERYONE:

The course on 'Accounting for Everyone' is designed to equip learners with the fundamental concept of accounting leading to up-skilling of financial literacy. This course aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of basic accounting terms, principles, and practices, enabling learners' ability to interpret financial information, make informed financial decisions, and or manage personal and professional finances effectively. The course emphasizes the practical application of business and accounting concepts through case studies and problem and solution approaches leading to the learner's commercial aptitude to evaluate any commercial decision-making processes.

B. TAXATION FOR EVERYONE:

The course on "Taxation for Everyone" is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of taxation principles and practices, equipping them with the essential knowledge to navigate the complex world of the taxation system. This course aims to strengthen the learner's fundamental ability and proficiency in various aspects of taxation, including tax planning, compliance, and personal finance management through case studies and problem-and-solution approaches. This course will empower learners to make informed decisions, understand their tax obligations, and contribute to effective tax planning. By acquiring a solid foundation in taxation, learners will be equipped to manage their finances, comply with tax laws, and make sound financial decisions in both personal and professional settings.

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(ODD SEMESTER 2023-2024)

OFFERED TO B.Sc & B.Sc (IT), B.COM, BMS & BAF STUDENTS BY BACHELOR OF ARTS- MASS COMMUNICATION & JOURNALISM (BAMCJ) DEPARTMENT

A. COMMUNICATION & SOCIETY (MEDIA, COMMUNICATION & JOURNALISM):

“The important aspect of communication is to hear what is not being said”

Understanding Mass Communication & Society is a critical component in today's fast-paced and media-driven world. It offers a comprehensive examination of the complex relationship between individuals, groups, institutions, and the media. A nuanced understanding of mass communication is essential to comprehend how society operates by predicting its future trends. Mass communication tools have revolutionized society with new technologies, providing access to an enormous amount of information that can be used towards developing innovative solutions to current problems while creating new ones; This course will help us learn how to navigate this digital media landscape effectively.

The course will also be an introduction to public relations, advertising marketing communications to understand the relationship between mass communication and society thoroughly and interpreting our environment efficiently so that we can exploit opportunities presented by new technologies while managing risks posed by them.

B. CURRENT MEDIA EVENTS-READING AND ANALYSIS (MEDIA, COMMUNICATION & JOURNALISM):

Media events are commonly understood as information relayed and simultaneously consumed by a large set of audiences. Though relevant, one can hardly ignore the change in consumption patterns, choices of media outlet and the reaction to the media events from the consumer's point of view. This is partly because of social media and its ability to allow consumers to participate in creation and consumption of events.

This course seeks to understand the function of media in disseminating information about the current events in the existing situation. The course will try and incorporate different kinds of events such as – news media, celebrity news, sports events, select social movements, public health events and human-interest events through different platforms-print/electronic/social media and analyze them to understand the context of event, impact on the consumer, socio-cultural significance and contextualize it in the larger perspective. The idea is to familiarize students with different kind of events, its coverage and understand the communicative mode in the current context.

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**OFFERED TO B.A, B.COM, BAMCJ, BMS & BAF STUDENTS BY
B.Sc (I.T) DEPARTMENT**

A. WEB DESIGNING:

Web designing is a crucial discipline that focuses on creating visually appealing and user-friendly websites. The course "Web Designing" is designed to equip students with the essential knowledge and skills required to design and develop effective websites. Through a combination of theoretical explanations and coding exercises students will explore the fundamental principles and techniques of web design. The primary learning objectives of this course include learning essential web design tools and technologies, such as HTML and CSS to create interactive web pages. This course also provides students with some basic understanding of the fundamentals of computer networks and their essential components. This course also teaches the current trends like goggle form which is useful for survey purpose. By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in web designing, enabling them to create visually appealing and functional websites. This course is suitable for beginners with no prior experience in web design.

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OFFERED TO B.A, B.COM, BAMCJ, BMS & BAF STUDENTS BY SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

1. DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY:

A. GARDENING:

The course aims to provide graduate students with a basic understanding of gardening principles, techniques, and its practical applications. It will develop a foundational knowledge in horticulture exploring various types of gardening methods, garden types and garden designs. It will help to foster some gardening skills and promote sustainable gardening practices and environmental stewardship. The course will include history of gardening, its definition, home gardening, plant material and design, along with basic structure of parks. It will give an insight on principles of designing a garden, analysing the site, selection of plants and creating aesthetically pleasing and functional gardens. The details will include preparation of soil for the garden, sowing of seeds, growing of seedlings, transplanting of seedlings to the garden, growth of plants and after care. The course will give understanding of watering the plants, pruning the plants, and also removing the weeds from the garden. In addition to information on growing edible plants at home, the course will also explain vertical gardening, hydroponics, rooftop gardening, urban gardening and community engagement. Demonstration of basic planting techniques and a short field trip in college garden will also be a part of this course.

B. PLANTS IN HUMAN NUTRITION:

The course focuses on the connection of plants and nutrition. The plants as a source of vegetables, cereals, pulses, seeds, fruits, nuts and spices, provide all the nutrients to animals and humans like carbohydrates, fats, proteins, oils, vitamins, minerals, fibres and water. Apart from food, plants provide beverages, medicine, psychoactive drugs, spices and sugar. Nowadays plants are used in production of dietary supplements, functional foods, pharmaceuticals and multi-component drug mixtures. In order to provide a base to appreciate the value of plants in one's diet, the role of plants in human nutrition will be the important part of the course. Specific examples of plants that supply specific nutrients will be given, emphasizing their role in maintaining good health and also preventing common diseases, in addition to fulfilling nutritional deficiencies and also reducing the risk of chronic diseases. The course will also touch upon components of a nutritional healthy diet, linking the concept of healthy eating with sustainability, and also the future ecological, economic and social implications of our dependency on edible plants in light of current threats to plants and their native habitats.

2. DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY:

A. CHEMISTRY IN SPORTS, PHYSIOLOGY AND HEALTH:

The course examines the role of chemistry and material science in improvement of sports equipment to help athletes reach their peak performance. It will give an insight into the role of nutrients, fluids / dietary supplements and their impact on physical activity and exercise. Students will also gain appreciation for the contribution of Chemistry in ensuring a fair playing field for all, through drug monitoring.

B. SCIENCE OF FOOD AND COOKING:

The course is designed to explore the principles of chemistry and chemical reactions in the kitchen. It is also intended to familiarise students with deterioration of foods, food processing, preservation and the role of food additives in enhancing the shelf life and safety of foods.

3. DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY:

GEMMOLOGY: UNDERSTANDING & APPRECIATING GEMS:

Introducing: “Gemmology: understanding and appreciating Gems” "Gems are the flowers of the mineral kingdom, and the fancy colored diamond is the orchid." - Richard Liddicoat Unlock the Allure of Gemstones, explore the world of gemmology! Have you ever been captivated by the dazzling beauty of gemstones? Step into the enchanting realm of gemmology, a fascinating field that doesn't require a background in science. Our introductory course in gemmology is specially designed to ignite your passion and introduce you to the captivating world of gemstones.

Embark on a journey that will unravel the secrets of these precious treasures, exploring their vibrant colours, breath-taking brilliance, and captivating stories. Immerse yourself in a realm where art, culture, and science converge, as we delve into the origins, properties, and value of these remarkable gemstones. Our approachable and engaging course provides a foundation, equipping you with the knowledge to appreciate and evaluate gemstones. Learn about their classifications, optical properties, and the fascinating processes that shape their formation. Discover the art of identifying gemstones, and gain insights into the treatments and enhancements they may undergo.

Join us in this adventure, where curiosity and wonder take center stage. Enroll in our basic gemmology course and unlock a world of timeless beauty and intrigue. No scientific background required.

4. DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS:
BASIC SCIENCE OF WATERCOLOUR ART:

The “basic science of watercolour art” encompasses various scientific aspects that contribute to the exposure and understanding of this medium. It involves delving into the chemical and physical properties of watercolour pigments, paper, and the behaviour of water in its interactions with pigments and surfaces. Pigments, finely ground particles providing colour, require comprehension of their composition, lightfastness, transparency, and water interaction. Choosing suitable watercolour paper, with its absorbency, strength, composition, sizing, and texture, is crucial. Water, a fundamental component, necessitates understanding its properties such as surface tension, viscosity, and evaporation rate, impacting paint manipulation and various techniques like washes and glazing. Additionally, the science of colour theory and light interaction influences colour mixing, optical effects, and achieving desired visual results. Understanding drying and preservation aids in ensuring the longevity and protection of watercolour artworks. Perspective drawing, with concepts like horizon lines and vanishing points, enhances spatial depth and realism. Simple compositional skills that involve arranging elements within the artwork to create a visually pleasing and balanced composition are also learnt.

By comprehending the scientific principles underlying watercolour materials and techniques, the course intends to give a basic introduction to the science of watercolour art.

5. DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS:

This Open Elective course in Statistics will equip the students with understanding various forms and types of data that one would handle, while dealing with data. It also teaches one to represent various types of data in forms of graphs and diagrams so that the full meaning of the data is revealed through these types of presentations. This course will help students to understand important aspects of data summarization techniques. Measurement scales and their importance will be explained through the process.

6. DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY:

A. WONDERS OF THE ANIMAL KINGDOM:

The animal kingdom is a diverse and fascinating realm filled with remarkable creatures that exhibit extraordinary phenomena. Some might even say supernatural abilities. The objective of this course is to introduce you to a few such animals. Some of these you may have heard of and some you may have not, so that you can better understand the complex world of animals in a fun and immersive manner. Through the course we will look at animals that exhibit novel traits, characteristics or abilities, understand the basics of animal camouflage, mimicry and engineering and the implications these have on our design and engineering. We will also take a closer look at animal learning and problem-solving abilities. This course is an avenue for new discoveries at every turn, aiming to cultivate an appreciation for the intricate complexity that defines the animal kingdom.

B. SOCIAL LIFE OF ANIMALS:

In the animal kingdom, for a vast majority of species, the individual lives a solitary life. They may form groups of two or more on certain occasions such as mating and parenting. However, there are many animal species where individuals live together forming societies. The composition of these societies ranges from simple 'aggregates' to highly complex ones such as honeybee colonies with their queens and dance language. The species that form societies range from simple microscopic organisms to giants like elephants. In the course 'Social Animals' we will look at different types of animal societies and try to understand why animals form societies, how they organize their groups, how they communicate with each other and why they co-operate and come in conflict with each other. In this course, we will also look at what we humans can benefit by learning about social lives of these animals.