

PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH-160014 (INDIA)

From

Deputy Registrar (General)  
Panjab University  
Chandigarh-160014

To

1. Secretary to the Vice-Chancellor
2. Controller of Examinations
3. Director, Research & Development Cell
4. Director, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam  
Computer Centre to upload on PU  
Website
5. Director, CDOE **for further  
transmission to the concerned**
6. Chairperson, DES-MDRC
7. D.R.(Colleges) **for further transmission  
to the Colleges affiliated to PU,CHD**
8. D.R.(Examinations) **for further  
transmission to the concerned**
9. A.R. (DUI's office) **for further  
transmission to All Teaching  
Deptt./Regional Centres**
10. A.R.(R&S)
11. A.R. (CET Cell)
12. A.R.G. **for further transmission to the  
concerned**
13. Mrs. Mamta Gupta, System  
Administrator, Computer Unit,  
Aruna Ranjit Chandra Hall, P.U.
14. O.S.(Enquiry)

No. ST. 6972-6985

Dated: 21/08/2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Syndicate at its meeting dated 08.07.2023 vide Paragraph 4 has considered and approved Panjab University Guidelines (prepared on the basis of UGC Guidelines) for pursuing two academic programmes simultaneously, under NEP 2020, as per **Appendix**.

Yours faithfully,

  
21/8/2023  
Assistant Registrar (General)

## **PU. Guidelines for Pursuing Two Academic Programmes Simultaneously**

### **Background**

The National Education Policy - NEP 2020 states that pedagogy must evolve to make education more experiential, holistic, integrated, inquiry-driven, discovery-oriented, learner centred, discussion-based, flexible, and, of course, enjoyable. The policy envisions imaginative and flexible curricular structures to enable creative combinations of disciplines for study, that would offer multiple entry and exit points, thus, removing currently prevalent rigid boundaries and creating new possibilities for life-long learning and centrally involve critical and interdisciplinary thinking.

With the rapid increase in demand for higher education and limited availability of seats in regular stream, several Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) have started a number of programmes in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode to meet the aspirations of students. It has also led to the emergence of online education programmes which a student can pursue within the comforts of her / his home. The issue of allowing the students to pursue two academic programmes simultaneously has been examined by the Commission keeping in view the proposals envisaged in the National Education Policy - NEP 2020 which emphasizes the need to facilitate multiple pathways to learning involving both formal and non-formal education modes.

### **Objectives**

To allow the students to pursue two academic programmes simultaneously keeping in view the following objectives envisaged in NEP 2020:

- recognizing, identifying, and fostering the unique capabilities of each student, by sensitizing teachers as well as parents to promote each student's holistic development in both academic and non-academic spheres;
- no hard separations between arts and sciences, between curricular and extracurricular activities, between vocational and academic streams, etc. in order to eliminate harmful hierarchies among, and silos between different areas of learning;

*RSW*

- multi-disciplinary and a holistic education across the sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities, and sports for a multidisciplinary world in order to ensure the unity and integrity of all knowledge;
- enabling an individual to study one or more specialized areas of interest at a deep level, and also develop character, ethical and constitutional values, intellectual curiosity, scientific temper, creativity, spirit of service.
- offering the students, a range of disciplines including sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities, languages, as well as professional, technical, and vocational subjects to make them thoughtful, well-rounded, and creative individuals.
- preparing students for more meaningful and satisfying lives and work roles and enable economic independence.

In view of the above, the Rules framed are as under:-

**GUIDELINES FOR PURSUING TWO ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES SIMULTANEOUSLY**

1. A student can pursue two full time academic programmes in physical mode provided that in such cases, the class timings for one academic programme do not overlap with the class timings of the other programme. No request for changes in the existing academic programmes shall be entertained.
2. A student can pursue two academic programmes, one in full time physical mode and another in Open and Distance Learning (ODL)/Online mode; or up to two ODL/Online programmes simultaneously.
3. The two academic programmes shall be pursued by the student from the same University or from different Universities/Institutions.
4. The Degree or diploma programmes under ODL/Online mode shall be pursued with only such HEIs which are recognised by U.G.C./Statutory Council/Government of India for running such programmes.
5. Degree or diploma programmes under these guidelines shall be governed by the Regulations notified by the U.G.C. and also the respective Statutory/Professional councils, wherever applicable.

*R.S.*

6. The students shall be allowed to enroll to multidisciplinary programmes. However, the students shall be required to fulfill all the admission requirements for each degree programme. No change in eligibility conditions shall be made to accommodate candidates into any of the academic programmes.
7. The students interested in pursuing for two degrees/academic programmes simultaneously shall be accommodated under the existing infrastructure and set up of the institution.
8. Multiple entry and exit option as introduced by the NEP will be applicable for all degrees, whether single or double, online or offline, degree or diploma, UG or PG.
9. The students shall not be allowed to use the credits earned in one programme to fulfil the requirements of the other programme.
10. The above shall be applicable only to the students pursuing academic programmes in regular/ODL/Online mode other than Ph.D. programme.
11. These guidelines shall come into effect from the date of their notification by the U.G.C. No retrospective benefit can be claimed by the students who have already done two academic programmes simultaneously prior to the notification of these guidelines.

Note:

- i. The student interested to pursue two academic programmes simultaneously would be required to register with Academic Bank of credits
- ii. An undertaking from the candidate shall be required at the time of admission if he/she intends to pursue any other simultaneous course/degree program at the time of admission as provided in **Appendix**. Further, the application for pursuing other Academic Programmes shall be forwarded through the Chairperson/Director/Principal of the Department/Institute/College where he/she is currently studying.

RW



Appendix

**UNDERTAKING BY THE STUDENT FOR PURSUING TWO ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES  
SIMULTANEOUSLY**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ Son/Daughter of \_\_\_\_\_  
resident of \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby  
declare as under :-

1. That I am seeking admission to the Department of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. That I shall inform the University about other course/degree being pursued by me in other University/Institute for pursuing two Academic Programmes simultaneously, as per P.U. Rules.

Declared this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ month of \_\_\_ year.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

*R. Saw*