

**Devrukh Shikshan Prasarak Mandal's**

**Nya. Tatyasaheb Athalye Arts, Ved. S.R. Sapre Commerce and Vid. Dadasaheb Pitre  
Science College Devrukh, Dist: Ratnagiri- 415 804, Maharashtra  
(An Autonomous College under the jurisdiction of the University of Mumbai)**

**DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY**

**Minutes of the Meeting convened on May 31, 2020, through Zoom**

The meeting of the Board of Studies (hereinafter termed as BoS) of the Department of Geography was held on May 31, 2020, at 1.00 p.m. through Zoom App.

**The following members were present for the meeting:**

1. Dr. Sardar Ananda Patil (**Chairman** of the BoS)
2. Dr. Surendra C. Thakurdesai (**Member**, VC Nominee Subject Expert)
3. Dr. Ramraje S. Manedeshmukh (**Member**, An expert from outside the Parent University)
4. Dr. Sameer Butala(**Member**, An expert from outside the college coopted with the approval of the principal for Special Courses)
5. Mr. Rakesh Yadav (**Member**, Alumni nominated by the principal)
6. Mr. Mukesh Dinkar Patil, **Member** (Allied area expert nominated by the academic council of the college)
7. Mr. Sandip Popatrao Jathar, **Member** (Industry expert nominated by the academic council of the college)
8. Mr. Mandar W. Jakhi, **Member** (The staff of the same faculty coopted with the approval of the principal)

The meeting commenced with a warm welcome by Dr. Sardar Patil, the Asst. Prof & Head, Department of Geography and the Chairman of the BoS, to all the members of the BoS in Geography. Dr. Patil informed the members that the department keened to introducing the vocational program in the area of Geospatial Technology with special emphasis on Village Resource Mapping.

Hereafter, the meeting continued with the discussions regarding the concerns on the agenda. The details of the fruitful discussion held during the meeting were as given below.

**Item No. 1: To review the minutes of the meeting held on April 25, 2019.**

Dr. Sardar Patil, Chairman Board of Studies in geography read the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies held on April 25, 2019, after listening carefully it was accepted and approved unanimously.

**Resolution 1.1:**

It was resolved to accept and approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 25, 2020.

**Proposed by** Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai

**Seconded by** Dr. Ramraje Manedeshmukh

**Item No. 2: To review the existing syllabi of the University of Mumbai for SYBA/BSC- Geography, MA Part – I (Semester-II), and MA Part – II (Semester-III and IV) in the subject Geography.**

Dr. Sardar Patil presented the copy of the syllabus of the University of Mumbai before the committee members with the view of review with fruitful discussion on the existing syllabus.

**Review of SYBA-Geography syllabus**

Dr. Sardar Patil overviewed the existing syllabi of the S. Y. B. A. - Geography. He informed all the members that for SYBA there will be two courses in each semester. The third semester has climatology and Physical Geography of India and for the fourth-semester Oceanography and Agricultural Geography of India are being offered according to the university's existing scheme of papers. He, besides, stated that the UGC model curriculum has the theory and practical courses separately. It denotes that the practical component has given 50 % emphasis on out of the whole syllabi. He addressed to the members that if we accept the UGC model curriculum with the inclusion of topics of local relevance will be more fruitful. But in the existing workload system in Maharashtra, it is impossible to complete the same. As a reply to Dr. Patil's views, Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai, VC Nominee on the BoS, suggested that the existing syllabus of the University of Mumbai for the SYBA has four theoretical units and one practical unit. He furthered that similar to FYBA, the chapter scheme may be redesigned and the three theoretical modules and one practical module be finalized. It will have a 75:25 percent focus on theory and practical. Dr. Manedeshmukh expressed his views by saying that some of the topics be replaced by the new ones with due consideration of the present-day applicability of the topics and the relevance to the local needs. Hence, the focus on practical components shall be increased.

**Resolution 2.1:**

It was resolved to revise the weight of theory and practical components to 75:25 % with three theory modules and one practical module and the weight to the practical component can be increased by up to 50 % by 2023.

**Proposed by** Mr. Mandar Jakhi

**Seconded by** Dr. Sameer Butala

**Review of MA Part -1 (Semester-II) and MA Part – 2 (Semester III and IV) Syllabus**

The existing syllabus of post-graduation in geography was discussed in detail and reviewed thoroughly by all the members present for the meeting. After reviewing the existing paper pattern and number of courses that need to be attempted by the student, Dr. Thakurdesai conveyed that we should need to take into consideration the guidelines provided by the University Grants Commission (UGC) concerning the credits for the course/s and the

program. In continuation with Dr. Thakurdesai's communication Dr. Manedeshmukh stated that there should be four theory courses for each semester, which is missing in the parent university's curriculum.

Dr. Sardar Patil informed all the BoS members that according to the existing system of the parent university the student entering into the third semester of PG in geography can learn 03 theoretical courses and in the 4th semester, the learner can have access to only 02 theoretical courses. If we select the existing system of the parent in university as it is, it may not fulfill the requirement of credits for the PG program.

After the due discussion, it was decided that students should have access to four theory courses with electives in each 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> semester, along with practical components, and then only it may fulfill the number of credits required to award the degree under UGC regulations. Accordingly, the list of courses has been approved and annexed herewith as **Annexure-I**.

### **Resolution 2.2:**

It was resolved to provide four theory courses with electives in each 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> semester, along with the practical component.

**Proposed by** Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai

**Seconded by** Dr. Sameer Butala

### **Item No. 3: To frame and finalize the syllabi of the Under Graduate and the Post Graduate courses concerning point No. 2.**

After the review of the existing courses and the syllabus for the UG and PG program in Geography, the BoS approved the final draft of the syllabus for UG and PG in geography

### **Changes of SYBA-Geography syllabus**

All the theory components related to the four courses i.e., Climatology, Physical Geography of India, Oceanography, and Agricultural Geography of India remained unchanged. The original scheme of chapters has been revised into modules and the syllabus given under four chapters clubbed into three modules. One Module focused on skill enhancement has been introduced and the existing practical syllabus along with some additions related to cartography and GIS has been made available to the learners through all the courses. The draft of the proposed syllabus has been annexed herewith in **Annexure-II**.

### **Resolution 3.1:**

It was resolved to combine the existing five units and limit the number of modules (units renamed as modules) to four and approve the due changes in the syllabus as per the discussion.

**Proposed by** Dr. Ramraje Manedeshmukh

**Seconded by** Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai

## **Review of MA Part -1 (Semester-II) and MA Part – 2 (Semester III and IV) Syllabus**

Dr. Thakurdesai focused light on the existing syllabus of PG in Geography. He said that the existing syllabus of the parent university can be accepted as it is. He also stated that if the system permits, we can introduce new courses with ample focus on Geospatial Technology, Village Resource Mapping, Environmental Protection, etc. Dr. Patil continued the discussion and told that in the future the courses focusing on Smart Villages, G-Governance, etc. may be introduced. Dr. Manedeshmukh and all other members agreed with the points put fourth by Dr. Thakurdesai and Dr. Patil and it was decided unanimously to accept the existing syllabus of the parent university. It was further decided to provide access for four theory courses with internal electives in each semester, as discussed under Item 2.

The copy of the syllabus has been annexed herewith as **Annexure-III**.

### **Resolution 3.2:**

It was resolved to accept and approve the syllabus of parent university for the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> semesters with internal electives for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> semesters.

**Proposed by** Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai

**Seconded by** Dr. Sameer Butala

## **Item No. 4: To frame and finalize the syllabus for the environmental module under the Foundation Course at S. Y. B. A. / B. Com. / B. Sc. for semesters III and IV.**

The draft of the syllabus for the environmental module under the Foundation Course i.e., Ability Enhancement Course for the second year of B.A., B. Com. and B. Sc. Discussed in detail. Dr. Thakurdesai appreciated the initiative for such wonderful changes in the curricula of the Foundation Course. After the due discussion, the draft of the syllabus was approved unanimously. The copy of the syllabus has been annexed herewith as **Annexure-IV**.

### **Resolution 4.1:**

It was resolved to approve the draft of the syllabus for the environmental module under the Foundation Course/ AEC.

**Proposed by** Shri. Mukesh Patil

**Seconded by** Mr. Rakesh Yadav

## **Item No. 5: To frame and finalize the syllabi for the PG Diploma in Geo-informatics**

Dr. Sardar Patil informed all the BoS members that the college is very much interested to initiate the programs in the area of Geo-Spatial Technology with a special focus on Village Resource Mapping. Concerning the same, the college intends to submit the proposal to the UGC to get sanction for Bachelor of vocation in Geoinformatics. Dr. Ramraje explained his views that if the college is going to apply for a Bachelor of Vocation in the area of Geoinformatics then the college needs to set up separate BoS for the same. Also

considering the present pandemic situation, it may not be possible to conduct certificate courses for value addition and skill development in the area. It will be better if the department offers some of the courses from Bachelor of vocation in geoinformatics for village resource mapping to other students as a certificate course. After the due discussion and fruitful comments by all the BoS members, it was decided not to frame the separate syllabus for certificate/ diploma programs in the area of Geo-Spatial Technology in the current meeting. The department may offer some of the courses from the Bachelor of vocation as value addition to the interested learners.

**Resolution 5.1:**

It was resolved to approve the draft of the syllabus for the environmental module under the Foundation Course/ AEC.

**Proposed by** Mr. Sandip Popatrao Jathar

**Seconded by** Mr. Rakesh Yadav

**Item No. 6: To finalize the pattern of Continuous Internal Assessment (CIA)**

Dr. Patil informed that the Examination Cell of the college has suggested 70:30 patterns for the term-end examination and Continuous Internal Evaluation (hereinafter termed as CIA) respectively. The pattern of the CIA is as given below and it is applicable for the UG and PG programs/ courses. He furthered that the pattern for the CIA will be of 30 marks comprising of 1 class test for 10 marks. He evoked that the 10 marks be assigned for the various classroom activities such as seminar, research projects, problem-solving, participation in online courses, open-book examination, etc. and the rest 10 marks be classified into such as the 5 marks for attendance and 5 marks for active participation in the classroom. He further stated that the examination cell reserves the right to make necessary changes regarding the conduction of class tests, i.e., either of 10 marks or 30 marks, according to feedback from the stakeholders. The pattern of CIA has been unanimously accepted and it has been finalized to conduct the class test preferably through online mode. The pattern of CIA is annexed herewith as **Annexure-V**

**Resolution 6.1:**

It was resolved to accept Continuous Internal Assessment (CIA) for 30 marks (the division of 10 + 10 + 10). It is also resolved to conduct class tests preferably through online mode.

**Proposed by** Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai

**Seconded by** Dr. Sameer Butala

**Item No. 7: To finalize the question paper patterns for the term-end examination and repeater / additional examinations**

Dr. Patil informed that the Examination Cell of the college has suggested 70:30 patterns for the term-end examination and CIA respectively. Hence the term-end examination will be 70 marks. He extended the discussion to inform that the examination cell of the college indicated that there will be 100 marks term-end examination for the candidates who fail a class test and/or in the regular term-end examination. But the examination cell may change this complex scheme of the term-end examination as per the feedback received from the stakeholders. Dr. Thakurdesai communicated that as per the guidelines regarding examination given by the parent university, the 70 marks term-end examination will have 2.5 hours duration, and the 100 marks examination will have 3 hours duration. He furthered that considering the current pandemic situation, whatever the circulars issued by the parent university may be considered for the smooth conduct of the examination. **The Class-wise question paper pattern for both the semesters and for all the classes is annexed herewith in Annexure-VI.**

**Resolution 7.1:**

It was resolved to accept the pattern of the term-end examination for regular as well as repeater/additional examination.

**Proposed by** Dr. Ramraje Manedeshmukh **Seconded by** Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai

**Resolution 7.2:**

It was resolved to consider the circulars issued by the parent university for the smooth conduct of the examination during the pandemic situation.

**Proposed by** Dr. Sameer Butala **Seconded by** Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai

**Item No. 8: To define the learning outcomes of the courses (course outcomes and program-specific outcomes)**

After the finalization of the syllabus of the respective classes, the BoS members finalized the learning outcomes in the form of the Course Outcomes (hereinafter termed as COs) Dr. Butala suggested that online tests should be conducted with the view to assess the achievement of the COs at the end of each semester. It was decided to finalize the Program Specific Outcomes (hereinafter termed as PSO) in the next BoS meeting. The learning outcomes of all the courses are annexed herewith in **Annexure-VII.**

**Resolution 8.1:**

It was resolved to accept the objectives and COs of the courses and it should be reflected on the website through the syllabus. In addition to the term-end examination, the online test may conduct with the view to assess the learning outcomes after the successful completion of the syllabus.

**Proposed by** Dr. Sameer Butala

**Seconded by** Dr. Ramraje Manedeshmukh

**Item No. 9: To prepare the panel of paper setters and external examiners as well as moderators**

Dr. Patil is informed to all the BoS members that as per the indications received from the examination cell of the college, the BoS needs to finalize the panel of paper setters and examiners with the view of conducting examinations very smoothly. He presented a list of paper setters and examiners. Dr. Thakurdesai, senior-most faculty of Geography in the Konkan region, extended the discussion initiated by Dr. Patil and replied that examination is a confidential matter and the panel of paper setters and examiners cannot be displayed on the website through the minutes of the meeting. Hence, BoS authorized the chairman of the BoS, to appoint paper setters and examiners. The appointment of paper setters and examiners should be following the rules and regulations provided by the University of Mumbai and UGC, from time to time. Also, the examiners belong to the Konkan region should be given priority considering the understanding level of the students.

**Resolution 9.1:**

It was resolved to finalize the list of paper setters, examiners, and moderators and keep it confidential.

**Proposed by** Dr. Sameer Butala

**Seconded by** Dr. Ramraje Manedeshmukh

**Item No. 10: Any other subject with the permission of the Chairman.**

No other matters were discussed and the meeting concluded with the vote of thanks by Dr. Patil.

Dr. Sardar Ananda Patil,  
Chairman, Board of Studies in  
Geography