

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 April 25, 2019, in the Geography Laboratory

The meeting of the Board of Studies (hereinafter termed as BoS) of the Department of Geography was held on 25th April 2019 at 10.30 a. m. in hall no. 1 (Geography Laboratory).

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. Mandar Waman 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 Assistant Professor & Head of the Department of Geography and the Chairman of the BoS, to all the members of the BoS in Geography. He further introduced all the members to each other by articulating his sense of gratitude towards all. Dr. Patil reported to the BoS that in this present scenario, some co-opted members were present for the meeting. According to the UGC regulation for Autonomous Colleges, an expert outside of the college should be coopted with the approval of the Hon. Principal for special courses; accordingly, Dr. Butala has been coopted. Dr. Patil extended the reporting and informed that Mr. Jakhi had been coopted as the staff of the same faculty with the approval of the Hon. Principal for interdisciplinary courses like Economic Geography.

Initially, Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai, Head, Department of Geography, Gogate-Joglekar College Ratnagiri, and the VC Nominee Subject Expert of the BoS, congratulated the Principal, Management, and the staff for being the first autonomous college in the Konkan belt. He further stated that the autonomous status wished to be benefited overcoming the problems of student strength.

Dr. Patil informed the members that the department keened to introducing the curriculum with a special emphasis on the inculcation of skills amongst the students. Here, the major focus is expected on geospatial technology. The department, also, willed in accepting the UGC model curriculum as it is but seemed to be impossible in the current workload system of the teaching positions in the college. Hence, the existing syllabi of the University of Mumbai will be modified for the sake of our department with 75:25 percent with its focus on the theory and practical, especially for the FYBA and FYBCOM. The same pattern will be followed for the second year. For the third year, there is a separate paper for the practical component; hence, the same pattern won't be applicable for the third year. He, also, indicated that in the future, we will try to emphasize on 50% practical component according to the UGC norms. Dr. Patil stated that as per the allusions, during the initial year, the BoS has the freedom to revise the existing syllabus of the parent university up to 20 %.

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 existing syllabi of the University of Mumbai for FYBA- Geography, FYBCOM-Environmental Studies, MA Part – I-Geography
Review of FYBA-Geography syllabus

Dr. Sardar Patil overviewed the existing syllabi of the F. Y. B. A. - Geography, FYBCOM- Environmental Studies, and MA Part – I, Geography. He, besides, stated that the UGC model curriculum has one theory paper and one practical paper for FYBA which 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 FYBA has four theoretical units and one practical unit. This 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. Initially, for the first year, the emphasis will be measured for 25 % out of the quiet syllabi. Hence, it was expected in the future that the scope of practical components will be increased by up to 50 % by 2021.

Resolution 1.1:

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 2022.

Proposed by Dr. Ramraje Manedeshmukh

Seconded by Dr. Sameer Butala

Review of FYBCOM Environmental Studies Syllabus

Dr. Sameer Butala communicated that the same pattern of 75:25 % weight should be applied for FYBCOM. He further stated the component of map-filling and map-reading should be restricted to India only. In addition to the existing topics, the topics of local relevance should be incorporated in the syllabus, said Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai.

Resolution 1.2:

It was resolved to revise the weight of theory and practical components to 75:25 % with three theoretical modules and one practical module with the inclusion of environmental components related to the Konkan region and the map component related to India only.

Proposed by Dr. Sameer Butala

Seconded by Dr. Ramraje Manedeshmukh

Review of MA Part-I Syllabus

Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai stated that there are some irrelevant subpoints in the syllabus of MA Part I that can be replaced or removed. He also stated the practical component can be enriched by adding the GIS-based practicals in addition to the existing practical component.

Resolution 1.3:

It was resolved to remove the irrelevant parts from the syllabus and to incorporate the GIS-based practicals in addition to the existing practical component of the courses.

Proposed by Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai

Seconded by Dr. Ramraje

Manedeshmukh

Item No. 2: To finalize the titles of the papers in the subject of Geography at the UG and PG level

Dr. Patil told that we don't have the privilege to change the existing titles of the papers during the initial year. We may think to change the titles of the papers after three years with the view to provide a skill-based syllabus to the students. He also stated that though we don't have the privilege to change the existing titles of the papers we may provide some optional papers to the existing papers of the University of Mumbai. Mr. Rakesh Yadav articulated that the optional papers may be provided for the second and third years, not for the first year. Also,

these optional papers should have a base of skill orientation and geospatial technology. The titles of the papers for all the UG and PG classes are attached herewith in *Annexure-I-A and Annexure-I-B*, respectively.

Resolution 2.1:

It was resolved to accept the existing titles of the courses of Geography at UG and PG as given by the parent university along with optional papers to be provided for the second and third year and the BoS may change the titles after three years with pre permission from the academic council of the college.

Proposed by Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai
Patil

Seconded by Dr. Sardar

Item No. 3: To frame and finalize the FY level UG and PG Syllabus of Geography

FY level UG Syllabus

After the review of the existing syllabus of FYBA-Geography, it was unanimously accepted to divide the FYBA-Geography syllabus into four modules. Each module will have 1 credit and 15 lectures will be allocated to complete the said module. As decided by all the members of the BoS, the FYBA-Geography syllabus is divided into three theoretical modules and one practical module.

Dr. Manedeshmukh stated that landforms like fluvial and coastal have local relevance and students can learn the same with Field-Based Experimental Learning (hereinafter termed as FBEL). Whereas the landforms carved by the wind, underground water, and the glaciers are absent in the region and that cannot be learned through FBEL. Hence the landforms which are not being found in the Konkan region may be removed from the syllabus and the focus on the practical component should be increased. By accepting the points raised by Dr. Manedeshmukh, Dr. Thakurdesai stated that we may provide a separate optional paper related to the rest of the part of Geomorphology at the TY level. Dr. Patil stated the topics like continental drift theory and plate tectonic theory may be removed and only the concept of plate tectonics may be added. He further stated that it will balance the syllabus with an increased practical component. Finally, the changes suggested by all the members were accepted unanimously. *Annexure-II* gives an insight into the existing syllabus of the parent university and *Annexures-III and IV* provide the details of the syllabus revised by the BoS.

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

FY level PG Syllabus

After the review of the existing syllabus of MA Part-I-Geography, it was unanimously accepted to divide the syllabus of each theory course into four modules. Each module will have 1 credit and 15 lectures will be allocated to complete the said module. Whereas for the practical component the existing modules of the parent university may be accepted as it is.

The details of the course-wise discussion are given below.

Semester I: Geography Paper-I: Principles of Geomorphology:

Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai stated that some sub-points of the syllabus need to be enhanced and some sub-points of the syllabus are vague that should be clear. In the syllabus of the parent university, only four geomorphic thoughts were given. But the students must have an idea of all the geomorphic thoughts. Hence, in the first module, all the geomorphic thoughts are incorporated into the syllabus. In the last module slope development and related theories were given in the parent university syllabus that is replaced by the Geomorphic Model of Penk and L. C. King with the view to bring more clarity in the syllabus of the course. All the changes suggested by Dr. Thakurdesai were accepted unanimously.

Semester I: Geography Paper-II: Principles of Climatology:

Dr. Ramraje Manedeshmukh stated that the syllabus of the Geography Paper-II seems to be perfect. No part of the existing syllabus can be irrelevant hence it can't be removed. We can add some subpoints but it will not be possible to complete the syllabus in the given time frame. Hence it is suggested to accept the existing syllabus of the course as it is. The points raised by Dr. Manedeshmukh were accepted unanimously.

Semester I: Geography Paper-III: Perspectives in Human Geography:

Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai expressed that it seems that the syllabus of the perspectives in human Geography seems to be very vast and it is impossible to complete the same in the given time frame. Dr. Patil upheld the point raised by Dr. Thakurdesai and stated that the points which are irrelevant to the present era and which don't have the present-day application can be removed from the syllabus. Accordingly, the points like Post-fifty conceptualization, post-1980s trends, emergence and development of early cultural hearth, etc. were removed from the

syllabus. All the changes suggested by Dr. Thakurdesai and Dr. Patil were accepted unanimously by the committee members.

Semester I: Geography Paper-IV: Spatial Organization of Economic activities:

After an overview of the existing syllabus of the parent university, Dr. Thakurdesai told that most of the syllabus of the course seems to be irrelevant to the current scenario and is lacking behind in the present-day applicability. Dr. Patil admitted the facts upstretched by Dr. Thakurdesai and replied that even though this is the fact we can't revise the syllabus beyond a certain limit. After the due discussion on the existing syllabus of the Parent University for the Course titled Spatial Organization of Economic Activities, all the members agreed to make the major necessary changes in the syllabus.

Semester I: Practical Paper-I: Tools and Techniques of Spatial Analysis – I

Dr. Patil told that the practical Paper-I titled Tools and Techniques of Spatial Analysis – 1 is based on Geography Paper I and II i.e. Geomorphology and Climatology. The existing practical component seems to be well arranged and it is a base for the practical component to be completed during the next semesters. Hence all the modules and sub-modules accepted as it is, except block diagram. Besides, three practical related slope analyses, contour generation, and profile analysis using Global Mapper Software are included in the syllabus. The arguments upstretched by Dr. Patil were accepted unanimously.

Semester I: Practical Paper-II: Tools and Techniques of Spatial Analysis - II

Dr. Thakurdesai told that the practical Paper-II titled Tools and Techniques of Spatial Analysis – 2 is based on Geography Paper III and IV i.e. Perspectives in Human Geography and Spatial Organization of Human Activities. The existing practical component seems to be well arranged and it has direct applicability with the fourth-semester dissertation. Hence all the modules and sub-modules should be accepted as it is. Dr. Patil communicated that all the practicals based on computer processing of the data can be performed using SPSS software. The arguments upstretched by Dr. Thakurdesai and Dr. Patil were accepted unanimously.

Annexure-V gives an insight into the existing syllabus of the parent university and **Annexure-VI (1 to 6)** provides details of the syllabus revised by the BoS.

Resolution 3.2:

It was resolved to approve the syllabus of the first semester of M.A. / M. Sc. in Geography with necessary changes in the university curriculum. It is also resolved that the syllabus for the second semester will be revised later on during the next BoS meeting. If the BoS meeting is delayed the existing syllabus of the parent university should be used as it is for the semester.

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

Item No. 4: To frame and finalize the syllabus of FYBCOM- Environmental Studies for two semesters

After the review of the existing syllabus of FYBCOM-Environmental Studies, it was unanimously accepted to distribute the FYBCOM-Environmental Studies syllabus into four modules, like FYBA-Geography. Each module will have 1 credit and 15 lectures will be allocated to complete the said module. The Environmental Studies course is an applied component for the FYBCOM class under the BoS of Geography. Dr. Patil presented the feedback received from Dr. Naikwade, as he is teaching the major part of the course for the last three years. Dr. Thakurdesai told that the points raised by Dr. Naikwade may be partially accepted. The map component is linked with skill orientation hence it cannot be removed. Also, it is a base for other courses in commerce. Dr. Butala suggested that the map component may be restricted to India only and it may be limited to the first semester only. For the second semester, we may add the technology-based component like Locating point, line, and polygon features using Google maps, use of Google Maps for E-Commerce/ E-Marketing, Google Services in the Environmental Awareness and E-Commerce, etc. It will enhance the necessary skills among the students. In addition to this, all the members agreed to add the points of local relevance to the syllabus.

Annexure-VII gives an insight into the existing syllabus of the parent university and **Annexure-VIII (1 and 2)** provides details of the syllabus revised by the BoS.

Resolution 4.1:

It was resolved to approve the syllabus of the F. Y. B. Com. Environmental Studies with necessary changes in the university curriculum.

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

Item No. 5: To frame and finalize the syllabus of the Environmental Component of the Foundation Course at F. Y. B. A. / B. Com. / B. Sc. for two semesters

After acceptance of autonomous status, the college has decided to add an environmental component in the Foundation Course Syllabus. Accordingly, the syllabus was prepared by the committee appointed for the finalization of the applied component of the foundation course. The syllabus prepared by the committee was put forth before the BoS in Geography by Dr. Patil. Subsequently, the draft of the syllabus was accepted unanimously after the necessary changes suggested by Hon. BoS members and are annexed herewith in **Annexure-IX**.

Resolution 5.1:

It was resolved to approve the syllabus of the Environmental component for the inclusion in the Foundation Course syllabus of the F.Y. B. A. /B.Com. /B. Sc. for both semesters.

Proposed by Dr. Ramraje Manedeshmukh

Seconded by Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai

Item No. 6: To frame and finalize the syllabus of the Skill oriented Certificate Course and the PG Diploma in Geo-informatics

Dr. Patil informed that the department is providing consultancy for Rural Mapping and planning. The department is willing to run a certificate course in Geospatial Technology for Cadastral Mapping. Also, the department is willing to start a PG diploma in Geoinformatics. Dr. Thakurdesai stated that the Department of Geography is the single faculty department. Hence for the first year, only the certificate course should be introduced. Dr. Butala conveyed that the department is already running various certificate programs related to Geo-Spatial Technology in collaboration with IIRS Dehradun. The department should focus on the same. After the due discussion and fruitful suggestions from all the members, the syllabus of the Certificate Course in Geospatial Technology for Cadastral Mapping is unanimously approved and the same has been annexed herewith in **Annexure-X**.

Resolution 6.1:

It was resolved to finalize the syllabus of the Certificate Course in Geospatial Technology for Cadastral Mapping,

Proposed by Dr. Surendra Thakurdesai

Seconded by Dr. Sameer Butala

Resolution 6.2:

It was resolved to conduct the various certificate programs related to Geo-Spatial Technology in collaboration with IIRS. Besides, PG Diploma in Geo-Spatial Technology may be started w. e. f. the academic year 2020-2021.

Proposed by Dr. Ramraje Manedeshmukh

Seconded by Dr. Sameer Butala

Item No. 7: 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 FYBA-

Geography, FYBCOM-Environmental Studies, and MA Part-I. He furthered on that the pattern for the CIA for FYBA-Geography, FYBCOM-Environmental Studies, and MA Part-I students 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. Dr. Ramraje Manedeshmukh, the BoS member, extended this discussion by adding the view that the additional examination is conducted for the students who remain absent for the internal test, wherever they represent the college. Dr. Thakurdesai suggested that autonomy is not progressive autonomy hence the same pattern may be applied for all the classes at UG and PG. Afterward, Dr. Butala stated that the class test may be conducted through online mode. It will save the time required for the assessment and will create interest among the student. Also, the assessment will be factual, said Dr. Patil. He furthered that the examination cell of the college has indicated that though 10 marks have been allocated for the class test, the class test will be conducted for 30 marks, and the marks secured by the student will be converted out of 10. 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.

Resolution 7.1:

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. 8: To finalize the question paper pattern of term-end examination and repeater 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. It is noteworthy to put on record that the term-end examination pattern of the FYBA, FYBCOM, and MA Part-I is focusing on the question like knowledge-based, skill-oriented, and applied questions.

The Class-wise question paper pattern for both the semesters and for all the classes is annexed herewith in [Annexure-XI](#).

Resolution 8.1:

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

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

Item No. 9: To define the learning outcomes of the courses (Course Outcomes and Programme 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. Ramraje Manedeshmukh 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-XII](#).

Resolution 9.1:

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. 10: To prepare the panel of paper setters and external examiners.

Dr. Patil is well-versed 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 10.1:

It was resolved to authorize the BoS chairman to appoint the paper setters, examiners, and moderators.

Proposed by Dr. Sameer Butala

Seconded by Dr. Ramraje Manedeshmukh

Item No. 11: To recommend the names of the industry and allied area experts for the nomination on BoS by the Academic Council of the college

Dr. Patil, BoS Chairman informed that as per the UGC Graded Autonomy Regulation 2018 experts from industries and allied areas are needed to be appointing to the BoS. Dr. Patil furthered with selected names from the industry and allied area. He communicated that Mr. Sandip Popatrao Jathar is working in Rolta India, Ltd., Mumbai in the capacity of Lead Engineer (GIS Analyst), is an expert in GIS and Mr. Mukesh Dinkar Patil is working in ACWADAM, Pune is an expert in Geomorphology and Ground Water Analysis. Both the experts will contribute a lot as per their capacity. All the BoS members agreed with the names suggested by Dr. Patil and it was resolved to recommend the names for the nomination by the Academic Council.

Item No. 12: 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.



Patil

Dr. Sardar Ananda Patil,

Chairman, Board of Studies in
Geography