PROGRAMME PROJECT REPORT

Master's in Biochemistry Programme (2 Year Programme in accordance with NEP-2020)





School of Sciences

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1. Master's Degree Programme

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 envisions a new vision that enable an individual to study one or more specialized areas of interest at a deep level, and also develop capabilities across a range of disciplines including sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities, languages, as well as professional, technical, and vocational subjects. The NEP 2020 focuses on the formulation of expected learning outcomes for all higher education programmes. It states that "National Higher Education Qualifications Framework (NHEQF)" shall be align with the National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) to ease the integration of vocational education into higher education. It also points out that higher education qualifications leading to a degree/diploma/certificate shall be described by the NHEQF in terms of Outcome Based Education (OBE).

The design of M.Sc.- **Biochemistry** programme in line with NHEQF offers opportunities and avenues to learn core subjects but also to explore additional avenues of learning beyond the core subjects for holistic development of a learner.

The uniform grading system will also enable potential employers in assessing the performance of the learner. In order to bring uniformity in evaluation system and computation of the Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) based on learner's performance in examinations, guidelines framed by the UGC are followed. Hence, adoption of NHEQF helps to overcome the gap between university degree and employability by introducing skills and competencies in the graduates.

2. M.Sc.- Biochemistry Programme

The structure and duration of postgraduate programme of Master's in Biochemistry in accordance with NEP 2020 includes multiple exit options within this period, with appropriate certifications:

- Level 8: A **Bachelor' Degree (Research)** for 4 year programme after completing 4th year of 4-year B.Sc. programme **OR PG Diploma in Biochemistry** after completing 1styear (2 semesters) of study of M.Sc. programme.
- Level 9: A Master in Science (Biochemistry) program after 2 years (4 semesters) of study;

2.1 Programme Mission & Objectives

In line with the mission of the University to provide flexible learning opportunities to all, particularly to those who could not join regular colleges or universities owing to social, economic and other constraints, the 2-year Post-Graduate Programme in Biochemistry aims at providing holistic and value based knowledge and guidance to promote scientific temper in everyday life. The program offers a platform to the learners to fulfill the eligible criteria in various scientific jobs in government and private sector.

The Master of Biochemistry Programme aims at the following objectives:

- Develop a broad academic and practical literacy in cell biology, nutritional chemisty, enzymology, bioinformatics, microbiology and biotechnology. Study of clinical biochemisty will be very useful in alaysis and measuring of biochemical parameters that will be useful in diagnosis and medial care.
- Provide strong core training so that graduates can adapt easily to changes and new demands from industry.
- Enable students to understand not only how to apply certain methods, but when and why they are appropriate.

- Integrate fields within zoology, botanty, microbiology and chemsity in biochemistry is very useful to understand the physiology of liviingh being and their metabolic processes.
- Expose students to real-world problems in the classroom and through experiential learning.

2.2 Relevance of the Programme with Mission and Goals

The 2-year Post-Graduate Programme in M.Sc.- Biochemistry is designed with the objective of equipping learners to cope with the emerging trends and challenges in the scientific domain. In congruence with goals of the University the Programme also focuses to provide skilled manpower to the society to meet global demands. The Programme is designed in such a manner so that a successful learner can go for higher studies as well as join the medical and pharmaceutical industry.

2.3 Nature of Prospective Target Group of Learners

The Program is targeted to all individuals looking to earn a post graduation degree for employment, further higher education, promotion in career, professional development.

2.4 Appropriateness of Programme to be conducted in ODL mode to acquire specific skills & competence

	Learning outcomes after Level 8			
Learning	Elements of	Level 8		
Outcome	the descriptor	Bachelor' Degree (Research)		
S		OR		
		PG Diploma in Biochemistry		
LO 1	Knowledge and understanding	 advanced knowledge about a specialized field of enquiry, with depth in one or more fields of learning within a broad multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary context. a coherent understanding of the established methods and techniques of research and enquiry applicable to the chosen fields of learning. 		
LO 2	Skills required to perform and accomplish tasks	 a range of cognitive and technical skills required for performing and accomplishing complex tasks relating to the chosen fields of learning, cognitive and technical skills relating to the established research methods and techniques, 		
LO 3	Application of knowledge and skills	 apply the acquired advanced technical and/or theoretical knowledge and a range of cognitive and practical skills to analyse the quantitative and qualitative data gathered drawing on a wide range of sources for identifying problems and issues relating to the biochemistry apply advanced knowledge relating to research methods to carryout research and investigations to formulate evidence-based solutions to complex and unpredictable problems. 		
LO 4	Generic learning outcomes	 listen carefully, read texts and research papers analytically and present complex information in a clear and concise manner to different groups/audiences, communicate technical information and explanations, and the findings/results of the research studies present in a concise manner one's views on the relevance and applications of the findings of research and evaluation studies in the context of emerging developments and issues. 		

		 pursue self-paced and self- directed learning to upgrade knowledge and skills that will help accomplish complex tasks and pursue higher level of education and research. problematize, synthesize and articulate issues and design research proposals, define problems, formulate appropriate and relevant research questions,
LO 5	Constitutional, humanistic, ethical and moral values	 embrace and practice constitutional, humanistic, ethical, and moral values in one's life. adopt objective, unbiased, and truthful actions in all aspects of work and professional practice.
LO 6	Employment ready skills, and entrepreneurshi p skills and mindset	 managing complex technical or professional activities or projects, requiring the exercise of full personal responsibility for output of own work as well as for the outputs of the group as a member of the group/team. exercising supervision in the context of work having unpredictable changes.

	Learning outcomes after Level 9			
Learning Outcome s	Elements of the descriptor	Level 9 (Master's in - Biochemistry)		
LO 1	Knowledge and understanding	 advanced knowledge about a specialized field of enquiry with a critical understanding of the emerging developments. advanced knowledge and understanding of the research principles, methods, and techniques applicable professional practice. procedural knowledge required for performing and accomplishing complex and specialized professional tasks relating to teaching, and research and development. 		
LO 2	Skills required to perform and accomplish tasks	 advanced cognitive and technical skills required for performing and accomplishing complex tasks. advanced cognitive and technical skills required for evaluating research findings and designing and conducting relevant research that contributes to the generation of new knowledge, specialized cognitive and technical skills relating to a body of knowledge and practice to analyse and synthesize complex information and problems. 		
LO 3	Application of knowledge and skills			
LO 4	Generic learning outcomes	 listen carefully, read texts and research papers analytically and present complex information in a clear and concise manner to different groups/audiences, communicate, in a well-structured manner, technical information and explanations, and the findings/ results of the 		

		research studies,
		• meet one's own learning needs relating to the chosen fields
		of learning, work/vocation, and an area of professional
		practice,
		• pursue self-paced and self- directed learning to upgrade
		knowledge and skills, including research-related skills,
		required to pursue higher level of education and research.
LO 5	Constitutional,	• embrace and practice constitutional, humanistic, ethical and
	humanistic,	moral values in one's life,
	ethical and moral	• adopt objective and unbiased actions in all aspects of work
	values	and professional practice,
		• participate in actions to address environmental protection and
		sustainable development issues,
LO 6	Employment	• adapting to the future of work and responding to the demands
	ready skills, and	of the fast pace of technological developments and innovations
	entrepreneurship	that drive shift in employers' demands for skills, particularly
	skills and	with respect to transition towards more technology-assisted
	mindset	work involving the creation of new forms of work and rapidly
		changing work and production processes.
		• exercising full personal responsibility for output of own work
		as well as for group/ team outputs and for managing work that
		are complex and unpredictable requiring new strategic
		approaches.

2.5 Instructional Design

2.5.1 2-year M.Sc.- Biochemistry Programme Structure

The University follows the credit system in all its programmes. One credit is equal to 30 hours of learner's study time which is equivalent to 15 lectures in conventional system. To earn a Master's Degree, a learner has to earn 80 credits in minimum four semesters (two years) with 20 credits per semester. For earning 80 credits, a learner has to go through the following Programme Structure:

Level	Year	Sem	Core Course 1	Core Course 2	Core Course 3	Research component	Practical Lab/ Dissertation with viva voce	Total credit
8	1	1 st	4	4	4	4	4	20
		2 nd	4	4	4	4	4	20
9	2	3 rd	4	4	4	4	4	20
		4 th	4	4	4	4	4	20
Total credit					80			

Programme Structure of M.Sc.- Biochemistry under NHEQF

Explanation of terms used for categorization of courses:

- A. Course 1 to 3:A course, which should compulsorily be studied by a learner as a core requirement is termed as a Core course.
- B. **Research Component:** The components included in this category are Basics in Research (PGBR-01), Mini Project (PGMP-02), Basic Research Tools (PGRT-03).
- C. Practical Lab: Lab based on courses discussed in theory papers.
- D. Industrial Training/ Survey/ Research Project/ Field Work/Apprenticeship/ Dissertation/Internship: A course designed to acquire special/advanced knowledge,

such as supplement study/support study to a project work, and a learner studies such a course on his own with an advisory support by a counsellor/faculty member.

- 2.5.2 Course curriculum: The details of syllabus is given in Appendix-I
- **2.5.3 Language of Instruction:** SLM is provided in English. However, learner can write assignment and give Term End Examination (TEE) either in Hindi or English.

2.5.4 Duration of the Programme

Minimum duration in years: 02 Maximum duration in years: 04

2.5.5 Faculty & Support Staff

Professor (2), Assistant Professor (5) and support staff (3)

2.6 Instructional Delivery Mechanisms

The Open University system is more learner-oriented, and the student is an active participant in the teaching-learning process. Most of the instructions are imparted through distance rather than face-to-face communication.

The University follows a multi-media approach for instruction. It comprises of:

- self-instructional printed material (Self Learning Material)
- audio and video lectures
- face-to-face counselling
- assignments
- laboratory work
- Project work in some courses
- teleconference/web conference
- Web Enabled Academic Support Portal
- e-GYANSANGAM (Open Educational Repository): http://gyansangam.uprtou.ac.in
- e-GYANARJAN:Its a Learning Management System based on Moodle (<u>http://gyanarjan.uprtou.ac.in</u>) to aid the learner through web conferencing, sharing of learning resources, counselling classes etc.

2.6.1 Self-Learning Material

The Self Learning Material (SLMs) are prepared in line with the UGC guidelines on preparation of SLMs. The prepared study materials are self-instructional in nature.

The course material is divided into blocks. Each block contains a few units. Lessons, which are called Units, are structured to facilitate self-study. The units of a block have similar nature of contents. The first page of each block indicates the numbers and titles of the units comprising the block. In the first block of each course, we start with course introduction. This is followed by a brief introduction to the block. After the block introduction, emphasis is given on contribution of ancient Indian knowledge into that specific course. Next, each unit begins with an introduction to talk about the contents of the unit. The list of objectives are outlined to expect the learning based outcome after working through the unit. This

is followed by the main body of the unit, which is divided into various sections and sub-sections. Each unit is summarized with the main highlights of the contents.

Each unit have several "Check Your Progress" Questions and Terminal Questions /exercises. These questions help the learner to assess his/her understanding of the subject contents. At the end of units, additional references/books/suggested online weblink for MOOCs/Open Educational Resources for additional reading are suggested.

2.6.2 Audio and Video lectures

Apart from SLM, audio and video lectures have been prepared for some courses. The audio-video material is supplementary to print material. The video lectures are available at YouTube channel of university(https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj2XTEB6iCZwwIqmKw_jzYg).

2.6.3 Counselling Classes

The face to face (F2F) counselling classes are conducted at head quarter and study centers. The purpose of such a contact class is to answer some of questions and clarify the doubts of learner which may not be possible through any other means of communication. Well experienced counsellors at study centers provide counselling and guidance to the learner in the courses that (s)he has chosen for study. The counselling sessions for each of the courses will be held at suitable intervals throughout the whole academic session. The time table for counselling classes are displayed at head quarter as well as by the coordinator of study center, however, attending counselling sessions is not compulsory. It is noted that to attend the counselling sessions, learner has to go through the course materials and note down the points to be discussed as it is not a regular class or lectures.

2.6.4 Assignments

The purpose of assignments is to test the comprehension of the learning material that learner receives and also help to get through the courses by providing self-feedback to the learner. The course content given in the SLM will be sufficient for answering the assignments.

Assignments constitute the continuous evaluation component of a course. The assignments are available at the SLM section of the home page of university website. In any case, learner has to submit assignment before appearing in the examination for any course. The assignments of a course carry 30% weightage while 70% weightage is given to the term-end examination (TEE). The marks obtained by learner in the assignments will be counted in the final result. Therefore, It is advised to take assignments seriously. However, there will be no written assignments for Lab courses.

2.6.5 Laboratory Work

Laboratory courses are an integral component of the M.Sc. programme. While designing the curricula for laboratory courses, particular care has been taken to weed out experiments not significant to the present-day state of the discipline. Importance has been given to the utility of an experiment with respect to real life experience, development of experimental skills, and industrial applications. It is

planned to phase the laboratory courses during suitable periods (such as summer or autumn vacations) so that in-service persons can take them without difficulty. Laboratory courses worth 2 credits will require full-time presence of the student at the Study Centre for one week continuously. During this time a student has to work for around 60 hours. Around 40 hours would be spent on experimental work and the remaining time will be used for doing calculations, preparations of records, viewing or listening to the video/audio programmes.

2.6.6 Teleconference/Web conference

Teleconference/web conference, using done through ZOOM/webex in form of online special counselling sessions is another medium to impart instruction to and facilitate learning for a distance learner. The students concerned would be informed about the teleconferencing schedule and the place where it is to be conducted by sending bulk SMS.

2.6.7 Web Enabled Academic Support Portal

The University also provide Web Enabled Academic Support Portal to access the course materials, assignments, and other learning resources.

2.6.8 e-GYANSANGAM

The e-GYAMSANGAM (UPRTOU-OER REPOSITORY) is an open access platform for educational resources that rely on the concept of 5Rs namely; Reuse, Revise, Remix, Retain and Redistribute. Uttar Pradesh Rajarshi Tandon Open University in support with Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia initiated the implementation of philosophy behind the NEP-2020 to provide equitable use of technology to support learners (SDG4). This not only ensure inclusive and equitable quality education opportunities but also provide faculty to repurpose high quality open educational resources (OER) such that innovative, interactive and collaborative learning environment is built. UPRTOU believes the philosophy of Antyoday (reaching to last person of the society) and facilitate the learner by providing Self Learning Materials, Lecture Notes, Audio/video Lectures, Assignments, Course materials etc. through face-to-face mode as well as distance mode. This e-GYANSANGAM depository will fulfill the educational facilities through equitable use of technology to the learners.

Objectives

- To provide low-cost access model for learners. To foster the policy of reaching to unreached.
- To break down barriers of affordability and accessibility of educational resources.
- To give faculty the ability to customize course materials for learners.
- To provide equal access to affordable technical, vocational and higher education resources (SDG 4.3).
- To provide ubiquitous access to anyone. This will facilitate the quick availability of educational resources and reduces time.
- To supplement Self Learning Material (SLM).
- To reduce the mentor-mentee gap as depository provide access to number of local access as well as global access to educational resources.

2.6.9 e-GYANARJAN: It's a Learning Management System based on Moodle (<u>http://gyanarjan.uprtou.ac.in</u>) to aid the learner through web conferencing, sharing of learning resources, counselling classes etc.

2.6.10 Learner Support Service Systems

(a) Study Centre

A Study Centre has following major functions:

- (i) **Counselling:** Counselling is an important aspect of Open University System. Face to face contact-cum-counselling classes for the courses will be provided at the Study Centre. The detailed programme of the contact-cum-counselling sessions will be sent to the learner by the Coordinator of the Study Centre. In these sessions learner will get an opportunity to discuss with the Counsellors his/her problems pertaining to the courses of study.
- (ii) Evaluation of Assignments: The evaluation of Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA) will be done by the Counsellors at the Study Centre. The evaluated assignments will be returned to the learner by the Coordinator of Study Centre with tutor comments and marks obtained in TMAs. These comments will help the learner in his/her studies.
- (iii) **Library:** Every Study Centre will have a library having relevant course materials, reference books suggested for supplementary reading prepared for the course(s).
- (iv) **Information and Advice:** The learner will be given relevant information about the courses offered by the University. Facilities are also provided to give him/her guidance in choosing courses.
- (v) **Interaction with fellow-students:** In the Study Centre learner will have an opportunity to interact with fellow students. This may lead to the formation of self-help groups.

(b) Learner Support Services (LSS)

The University has formed an LSS cell at the head quarter. The LSS cell coordinate with the Study Centre to get rid of any problem faced by the learner.

2.7 Procedure for admissions, curriculum transaction and evaluation

2.7.1 Admission Procedure

- (a) The detailed information regarding admission will be given on the UPRTOU website and on the admission portal. Learners seeking admission shall apply online.
- **(b)** Direct admission to 2-year M.Sc. (**Biochemistry**) program is offered to the interested candidates.

Entry Eligibility:

Level 8: Bachelar degree in concern subject (B.Sc. (Bio)/B.Sc. (Honors) with chemistry as one of the subject) OR Biochemistry/Microbiology/Biotechnology/ at B.Sc. Level OR Any 4 year Graduate Degree in Medical Sciences/Science. **Level 9:** Students who successfully completed the Bachelors degree (Research) or PG Diploma in Biochemistry at level 8 will get admission in 2nd year of M.Sc. (Biochemistry) program in accordance with NEP-2020.

(c) **Programme Fee:** Rs. 12000 / year. The fee is deposited through online admission portal only.

2.7.2 Evaluation

The evaluation consists of two components: (1) continuous evaluation through assignments, and (2) term-end examination. Learner must pass both in continuous evaluation as well as in the term-end examination of a course to earn the credits assigned to that course. For each course there shall be one written Terminal Examination. The evaluation of every course shall be in two parts that is 30% internal weightage through assignments and 70% external weightage through terminal exams.

(a) Theory course	Max. Marks
Terminal Examination	70
Assignment	30
Total	100
(b) Practical course:	Max. Marks
Terminal Practical Examination	100

Marks of Terminal Practical Examination shall be awarded as per following scheme:

i.	Write up /theory work	30	
ii.	Viva-voce	30	
iii.	Execution/Performance/Demo	onstration	20
iv.	Lab Record	20	

The following 10-Point Grading System for evaluating learners' achievement is used for CBCS programmes:

Letter Grade	Grade Point	% Range
O (Outstanding)	10	91-100
A+ (Excellent)	9	81-90
A (Very Good)	8	71-80
B+ (Good)	7	61-70
B (Above Average)	6	51-60
C (Average)	5	41-50
P (Pass)	4	36-40
NC (Not Completed)	0	0-35
Ab (Absent)	0	
Q	Qualified	Applicable only for Non-Credit
NQ	Not Qualified	courses

10-Point Grading System in the light of UGC-CBCS Guidelines

Learner is required to score at least a 'P' grade (36% marks) in both the continuous evaluation (assignments) as well as the term-end examination. In the overall computation also, learner must get at least a 'P' grade in each course to be eligible for the M. Sc. degree.

Computation of CGPA and SGPA

(a) Following formula shall be used for calculation of CGPA and SGPA

For jth semester	where,
SGPA (Sj) = Σ (Ci *Gi)/ Σ Ci	Ci = number of credits of the ith course in jth semester Gi= grade point scored by the learner in the ith course in jth semester.
$CGPA = \Sigma (Cj *Sj) / \Sigma Cj$	where, Sj = SGPA of the jth semester Cj = total number of credits in the jth semester

The CGPA and CGPA shall be rounded off up to the two decimal points. (For e.g., if a learner obtained 7.2345, then it will be written as 7.23 or if s(he) obtained 7.23675 then it be will written as 7.24)

CGPA will be converted into percentage according to the following formula: Equivalent Percentage = CGPA * 9.5

(b) Award of Division

The learner will be awarded division according to the following table:

Division	Classification
1 st Division	6.31 or more and less than 10 CGPA
2 nd Division	4.73 or more and less than 6.31 CGPA
3 rd Division	3.78 or more and less than 4.73 CGPA

2.7.3 Multiple Entry and Multiple Exit options

The 2-year M.Sc. programme is an Outcome-Based Education (OBE) for qualifications of different types. The qualification types and examples of title/nomenclature for qualifications within each type are indicated in Table 1.

	Table 1					
Level	Qualification	Programme	Entry Option	Exit option		
	title	duration				
	B.Sc.	Programme	Bachelar degree in concern subject (B.Sc.	Exit Awarded		
8	(Research) OR	duration: First	(Bio)/B.Sc. (Honors) with chemistry as one	with Bachelor'		
	PG Diploma in	year (first two	of the subject) OR Biochemistry/	Degree		
	Biochemistry	semesters) of the	Microbiology/ Biotechnology/ at B.Sc.	(Research) for		
		M.Sc.	Level OR Any 4 year Graduate Degree in	4 year		
		programme	Medical Sciences	programme		
				OR PG		
				Diploma in		
				Biochemistry		
	Master in	Programme	Level 8 Bachelor' Degree (Research) for 4	Exit awarded		
9	(Biochemistry)	duration: First	year programme OR	with Master's		
		two years (first	PG Diploma in Biochemistry	in		
		four semesters)		(Biochemistry)		
		of the of the				
		M.Sc.				
		programme				

2.8 Requirement of the laboratory support and Library Resources

The practical sessions are held in the science laboratories of the Study Centre. In these labs, the learner will have the facility to use the equipment and consumables relevant to the syllabus. The SLM, supplementary text audio and video material of the various courses of the program is available through the online study portal of the University. The University also has a subscription of National Digital Library to provide the learners with the ability to enhance access to information and knowledge of various courses of the programme.

2.9 Cost estimate of the programme and the provisions

2-year M.Sc. programme consists of 15 theory courses, 4 laboratory courses and research activities. One course is of 4 credits which consist of approx. 6 units. The total approximated expenditure on the development of 15 courses is:

S.	Item	Cost per Unit	Total cost
No.		(writing &	(Rs.)
		editing)	
1	Total no. of units in 12 courses =	7500	675000
	15*12=90		
2	BOS Meetings etc.	100000	100000
		Total	775000

2.10 Quality assurance mechanism and expected programme outcomes

- (a) **Quality assurance mechanism:** The program structure is developed under the guidance of the Board of studies comprising external expert members of the concerned subjects followed by the School board. The program structure and syllabus is approved by the Academic Council of the University. The course structure and syllabus is reviewed time to time according to the feedback received from the stakeholders and societal needs.
- The Centre for Internal Quality Assurance will monitor, improve and enhance effectiveness of the program through the following:
 - ✓ Annual academic audit
 - ✓ Feedback analysis for quality improvement
 - ✓ Regular faculty development programs
 - ✓ Standardization of learning resources
 - ✓ Periodic revision of program depending upon the changing trends by communicating to the concerned school

Knowledge	PO1	To grasp the ability of biochemical process and functioning of
and		living being systems in concern to their structure and
understanding		functions.
Skills related	PO 2	To adapt the skills and understanding of the concepts of
to		enzyme kinetics, their behaviour & mechanism, molecular
specialization		mapping, gene expression and control of DNA transcription in
		living beings.
Application	PO 3	To conceptualize and analyze the principle of different
of knowledge		biochemical changes of various biomolecules with their
and skills		chemistry in living system

(b) Expected programme outcomes (POs)

	PO 4	To apply clinical and experimental knowledge for the
		diagnoses of different kinds of diseases.
Generic	PO 5	Learner will be able to get the job in various fields related to
learning		medical professions, pharmaceutical industry, biotechnological
outcomes		industry and community health centre.
	PO 6	Learner will also be able to improve the quality of life for the
		human welfare by understanding the principle of living
		organisms at the molecular level.

Newly Introduced programme : Yes			
Programme:	Master in Science		
Year: NA	First Introduction year:2023		
Programme prerequisites: Bachelar degree in concern subject (B.Sc. (Bio)/B.Sc.			
(Honors) with chemistry as one of the subject) OR			
Biochemistry/Microbiology/Biotechnology/ at B.Sc. Level OR Any 4 year Graduate			
Degree in Medical Sciences/Science.			