

### **Best Practice 1**

1. Title of the Practice: **‘one-credit Theory and one credit Practical’ format of Co-curricular Course (CC) for effective professional social service project execution under NEP framework**

2. Objectives of the Practice What are the objectives/intended outcomes of this “best practice” and what are the underlying principles or concepts of this practice? (in about 100 words)

HEIs are catering to the needs of today’s learners that are future citizens. BNBCS has active NSS unit, undertaking significant social projects and imbibing selfless serving culture among students. However, a gap was felt in making students independent and more serious about executing any social activity.

It was thought to enrich and educate the learners with basic principles of NSS and exact steps involved in planning and executing societal projects at grassroots levels.

The objectives:

- To help students learn the importance of social activities in nation building
- To provide training to plan and execute social activity independently

3. The Context What were the contextual features or challenging issues that needed to be addressed in designing and implementing this practice? (in about 150 words)

NEP framework include the structure of the bachelor’s degree program that allows the students to experience the full range of holistic and multidisciplinary education along with the chosen major and minors of their choice. NEP guidelines ask HEIs to offer the Co-curricular Courses (CC) in first and second year.

The college decided to take this opportunity to Draft the syllabus for NSS in Theory one-credit and Practical one credit format to offer it as Co-curricular Course.

The college intends to create the socially aware citizens that are well equipped with the strategic planning that can be taught in theory and can work independently to execute the social activities that they are learning through experiential learning.

4. The Practice Describe the practice and its uniqueness in the context of Indian higher education. What were the constraints/limitations, if any, faced? ( in about 400 words )

National education policy 2020 offered freedom to the HEI’s to frame curricula of different formats for best effective outcomes. Under NEP, the college has designed a co-curricular course on social studies at level 4.5 and level 5 in one- credit worth Theory and one credit worth Practical format.

The program aims to inculcate various life skills like leadership, teamwork, communication, creativity, critical thinking and social responsibility. It promotes values like discipline, resilience, empathy and respect.

As a part of co-curricular activities students were undertaking NSS and were participating in extension activities. Under NEP the college thought of making the students self reliant to plan and execute such activities in future through proper basic knowledge building that can be covered as theory coursework.

Through the structured syllabus, firstly the students are introduced to NSS, its organization, objectives and activities. Eventually, they are also taught concept of volunteerism and communication skills through theory component. It also makes students aware about social challenges and possible solutions, human values, gender sensitization and community mobilization. It orients students towards the methodic approach of planning and implementation before they actually execute the social project on-site.

The fifteen lecture theory course work and thirty hours worth practical coursework is supposed to be done by the students. If student completes 60 hours of activity work, he or she is exempted from theory examination. However, attending lectures is mandatory for all.

The involvement of the students in activities is well planned by the programme officer to ensure his or her participation in Health based, environment based, education based activities as well as the ones that will inculcate national values.

5. Evidence of Success Provide evidence of success such as performance against targets and benchmarks, review/results. What do these results indicate? Describe in about 200 words.

- With the basic intentions and approach of participating social activities that are reaching learners through the theory component, proper sensitization of the students is achieved.
- Students are well prepared to anticipate probable hurdles and can design strategies while working on site.
- The sense of responsibility and accountability, rational thinking gets developed into students mind.
- The interactions during theory classes ensure to develop the spirit of „nation building“ while executing any social project that student may otherwise think insignificant. It helps intensify the positive outcome of activities.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required Please identify the problems encountered and resources required to implement the practice (in about 150 words).

- The implementation needed prior design and approval of syllabi at BOS, academic and governing council.
- The problems of space and time constraints were needed to be addressed while making timetable.
- The faculty members require orientation about classroom teaching apart from coordinating the actual social project on site.
- Supervision and vigilance was needed by the NSS coordinator about attendance of students in both, theory lectures and practical activities.

7. Notes (Optional) Please add any other information that may be relevant for adopting/implementing the Best Practice in other Institutions (in about 150 words).