



Savitribai Phule Pune University
**Interdisciplinary School of
Science**



BA Liberal Arts

**Course and Syllabus for first year for the academic year 2023-2027
(based on the National Education Policy- 2020)**

Introduction

In order to promote an interdisciplinary approach in teaching and research, Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU) established the Interdisciplinary School of Science (IDSS) about a decade ago. The objective of the School is to promote dialogue and collaboration among various departments within and outside the science and technology faculty through teaching and research.

In tune with this objective, IDSS launched a three year B.A. programme in Liberal Arts. in July 2019. It is the first full time graduate programme in Liberal Arts conducted by a public/state university in Maharashtra. It is also among the handful of bachelor programmes run on the SPPU campus.

In an increasingly integrated and interconnected world, the ability to connect information dots and integrate knowledge driven insights has become crucial in many walks of social and professional life.

Developing such ability is not an easy task. It requires an education that helps to see the world beyond the tight disciplinary boundaries. The B.A. Liberal Arts programme at IDSS aims to provide a space for such education.

The programme has received good response from students and academic fraternity from the beginning. The first batch of B.A. Liberal Arts passed out in July 2022. With completion of three years and one revision in syllabus in 2022, the programme is now restructured according to the framework which the Maharashtra

Government finalized on the basis of the New Education Policy (NEP)- 2020

Objectives

- To offer students a robust and broad-based academic exposure at graduate level
- To help students develop an interdisciplinary, integrated and holistic outlook
- To strengthen analytical and creative abilities of students
- To enhance various writing, presentation and digital skills of students.
- To prepare a fertile ground for various post graduate courses.
- To improve employability of students.

Highlights of the Program

- Thirteen-tiered pedagogical structure working towards diverse yet holistic education
- Scope to choose subjects for Major & Minor. Due emphasis on leaning different skills.
- Learning through internship, field work and projects.
- Competent faculty and healthy learning environment.

Programme Structure

Duration:

The duration of B. A. (Liberal Arts) Degree Programme is of four years with multiple exit points as per NEP- 2020 guidelines.

Medium of Instruction:

The medium of instruction for the programme is English.

Features

The programme is spread over four years

i.e. eight semesters. It offers an exciting combination of diverse subjects. From the second years onwards, students engage intensely with a subject of their choice from the given set. Called as 'Major', this intense engagement brings student at par with the graduation/ honours level knowledge in the chosen subject. This enables student

to pursue a Master's course in that subject. The course offers a wide variety of subjects for choice under Major and Minor. Besides, it also offers an interdisciplinary combination of value added and generic papers. The program structure complies with the major guidelines of the NEP 2020 and offers a unique combination of subjects and papers.

CBCS:

The programme is based on the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS). In simple words, 1 Credit is equal to 15 hours of teaching and evaluation for 25 marks. The papers are of 2, 3 or 4 credits.

Elements of the course

Following the framework prescribed by Govt. of Maharashtra, the programme is built using nine types of papers which together cover a range of pedagogical objectives. The units are:

Major Paper (MJ):

Students learn 19 papers under that 'Major' subject. All these papers are of 4 credits. Together these papers develop solid foundation of that particular subject at the graduation/ honors level. Papers under Major are run from 3rd to 8th semester. Subjects for Major are selected after following due administrative procedure. The course offers a range of subject under Major.

Minor Paper (MN):

As a pedagogical unit 'Minor' offers a bouquet of papers which are interdisciplinary in nature and often perform a complimentary role for the major. There are five papers under Minor. Papers under Minor are run from the 3rd to 6th semester. Subjects under Minor are selected after following due administrative procedure.

Generic Open Papers (GO):

The course offers four papers which touch upon the basic fields under humanities and social sciences.

Together these papers build a solid interdisciplinary foundation for the Major and Minor. All the papers under this unit are offered in the first two semesters.

Value Enhancement Papers (VE):

Under the pedagogical unit 'Value Added' the course offers four interesting papers which touch upon some basic and contemporary aspects of everyday life. All the papers under this unit are offered in the first two semesters.

Ability Enhancement Papers (AE)

Four papers under this unit cover writing and translation related abilities in English and one Indian language. The papers are distributed over first four semesters.

Students can also take up one or more papers under this category from other Course, Department or recognized institute.

Skill Based Paper (VS & SE):

The course incorporates two types of pedagogical units which focus on skill development.

Vocational skill (VS) related three papers cover a range of industry or enterprise related skills whereas Skill Enhancement (SE) related three papers cover a range of soft skills and digital skills. Students can also take up one or more papers under this category from other Department or recognized institute in offline or online mode.

Indian Knowledge System (IK):

The course incorporates two papers under Indian Knowledge System (IKS) unit. One of them is general in nature and offers a choice whereas the other would be related to the subject of Major.

Students can also take up the general paper under this category from other Course, Department or recognized institute in online or offline mode.

Other Units (RP, IN, CC & FC):

Besides, the course also contain four other units (and papers therein). They are Internship (IN), Co- curricular Activity (CC), Field or Community Project (FC) and Research Dissertation/ Project (RP).

These papers with varying credits are distributed throughout the eight semesters.

Year One- Title of Papers

Semester One		
Code	Name of the paper	Credits
Generic Elective/ Open Elective (OE)- 2 papers		
OE110	Foundation of Social Theory	3
OE111	Economic- Ideas and Issues	3
Value Education Course (VEC)- 2 papers		
VEC112	Mental Health and Illness	3
VEC113	Law in Everyday Life	3
Ability Enhancement Course (AEC)- 1 paper		
AEC114	Formal and Applied Writing	2
Co-Curricular Course (CC)- 1 paper		
CC115	Food and Nutrition	2
Skill Enhancement Course (SEC)- 2 of 3 papers		
SEC116	Oratory, Debate and Discussion	2
SEC117	Presentation Skills	2
SEC118	Cyber Security	2
Indian Knowledge System (IKS)- 1 of 2 papers		
IKS119	Ancient and Vedic Mathematics	2
IKS120	Indian Rhetoric	2
Total Credits		22

Semester Two		
Code	Name of the paper	Credits
Generic Elective/ Open Elective (OE)- 2 papers		
OE121	History of Indian Modernity	3
OE122	Indian Democracy and Governance	3
Value Education Course (VEC)- 2 papers		
VEC123	Algorithm and Everyday Life	3
VEC124	Personal Finance	3
Ability Enhancement Course (AEC)- 1 paper		
AEC125	Creative Writing in English	2
Co-Curricular Course (CC)- 1 paper		

CC126	Cultural Program/ Review	2
Skill Enhancement Course (SEC)- 2 of 3 papers		
SEC127	Excel: Formats and Formulae	2
SEC128	Introduction to SEO and Generative AI	2
SEC129	Photoshop and Corel Draw	2
Community Engagement Project		
CEP130	Community Engagement Project	2
Total Credits		22

Detailed Syllabus of Semester ONE

OE110- Foundation of Social Theory	Lectures
1. The sociological Perspective	
Meaning, and scope of Sociology – common sense and sociology	3
Cultivating the sociological imagination.	2
2. Approaches in Sociology	
Theoretical approaches in sociology – structural functionalism, conflict and interactionist	3
Scientific and humanistic nature of Sociology	2
3. Historical roots of Sociology	
Enlightenment	3
French Revolution	2
Industrial Revolution	2
4. Basic Concepts	
Society and groups	3
Social Stratification	2
Social Institutions	2
5. Socialization and Social Control	
Socialization: Meaning, importance, agencies and types	2
Social Control: Meaning, importance, agencies; Conformity and deviance	2
6. Culture	
Meaning, types, subculture and counter culture	2
Cultural diversity, multiculturalism, cultural relativism, ethnocentrism.	3
Total	45

OE111- Economics – Ideas and Issues	Lectures
1. Basic Concepts	
Economy- Concept, Types & Agents	2
Markets: Functions and types	2
Resources and pricing of resources	2
2. Measuring an Economy	
Production possibility frontier	2
Circular Flow of Income	2
GDP, GNP, NNP and Green GDP	2
Growth and development	2
3. Public Finance	
Role of government	2
Public finance and private finance	2
Budget : Concept, Process and Structure	2
4. External Sector	
Benefits of trade	1
Balance of trade	2
Balance of payments	1
Trade blocks	2
WTO : Role and rationale	2
5. Broader Concepts/Issues	
Globalization	2
Economic restructuring	2
Unemployment and poverty	1
Money and money supply	2
6. Glimpses Of Indian Economy	
Structure of the economy	2
Journey after independence	2
Major issues	1
Data sources	2
Tutorials/ Presentations/ Revision	3
Total	45

VEC112 Mental Health and Wellness	Lectures
Concept of Mental Health & Wellness	
Idea of health- historical perspectives	2
Idea of wellness- historical perspectives	2
Mind, body, and environment- fundamental trio	3
Risks Factors of Mental Health	

Biological factors	2
Psychological factors	3
Environmental Factors	2
Mental Health: Early & Middle Childhood	
Attachment & separation related issues	2
Communication & Conduct related issues	2
Attention & Hyperactivity	2
Autism Spectrum	3
Mental Health: Adolescence	
Adolescence- Definition, Charm & Challenges	2
Depressions & Abuse	2
Addiction & Cyber Issues	2
Obsessive Compulsive Behaviour	3
Mental Wellness	
Relation as Support System	2
Mental Resilience: Concept & Practices	2
Introspection & Meditation	2
Positive Attitude & Optimism	2
Tutorial/ Presentation/ Revision	5
Total	45

VEC113- Law in Everyday Life	Lectures
1. Law, Justice & Society	
Law : concept & conception	3
Justice: Meaning	3
Relationship between Law & Justice	2
Law as a mean of Social Change	2
2. Constitution: Social & Political Document	
Constitutional Law & Constitutionalism	3
Fundamental Rights & Fundamental Duties	3
Legislative, Executive & Judiciary	3
3. Criminal Justice System	
Offence Against Human Body	2
Offence Against Property	2
Legal procedures & their implementation in the courts (F.I.R. , Charge sheet, Bail, Evidence ,etc.)	3
4. Social Networking and Legal Implication	
Cyber Crimes and Remedies	2
Social Media for the netizens: Do's & Don'ts	2

5. Law Related to Vulnerable & Disadvantageous Groups	
Law related to Women and children	3
Law related to SC, ST, OBC and EWS	2
Law related to Disabled (DIVYANG)	1
6. Other Areas	
Laws Related to Motor vehicle and Traffic rules	1
Right to education and Right to information	2
Consumer Protection Act.	2
Laws related to Property Ownership & inheritance	2
Food adulteration Act	2
Total Number of Lectures	45

AEC114- Formal Writing in English	Lectures
1. Key Elements of Writing- I	
Context of the text	2
Order and significance of points	2
Mode of articulation	1
2. Key Elements of Writing- 2	
Vocabulary & words registers	2
Idioms and phrases	2
Homonyms, Homophones and Hyponyms	2
Rules of grammar	2
3. Application of formal writing-1	
Letters and emails	2
Resume writing	2
Various official applications	2
4. Applications of formal writing- 2	
Minutes of meeting	2
Report writing	1
Academic writing	4
5. Tutorials & Revision	4
Total	30

CC115- Health and Nutrition	Lectures
Fundamentals of Health and Nutrition	
Relationship between food, nutrition and health	2
Nutrients- functions of food	2
Food groups, balanced diet	1

Importance of nutrition	1
Nutrition for the family	
Concept of dietary reference intakes	2
Nutritional guidelines, healthy food choices	2
Introduction to food safety	
Food safety- key terms, & factors	2
Case study on food safety issues	2
Public Health Nutrition	
Nutritional deficiency diseases	2
Social health problems- smoking, addiction	1
Nutrition for special conditions	4
Food security- key terms & factors	
Nutrition and fitness	4
Fitness- definition, assessment of fitness	2
Importance of physical activity	2
Weight management- diet & health	1
Total	30

SEC116: Oratory, Debate and Discussion	Lectures
1. Basics of communication	
Communicative situations & language	1
Opinion and information & communication	2
Perspectives in communication	1
Barriers to communication	2
2. Elements of communication	
Interpersonal communication and active listening	2
Pace, Tone and Pitch	1
Non-verbal communication	2
Verbal communication	2
3. Group Discussion	
Ability to process and sort new information	2
Constructive argumentation	3
Concluding with significance and future links	2
4. Interviews	
Structuring an Interview	2
Self-direct interviews	2
Group interviews	1
Guided interviews	1
5. Tutorials/ Practice	4

Total	30
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SEC117: Formal Presentation Skills	Lectures
1. Presentation Types and Forms	
Theme based presentations	3
Purpose based presentations- informative/ persuasive/ demonstrative/ entertaining	3
Form based presentation- Collage making.	3
2. News Presentation	
Understanding facts, focusing on gestures, controlled pace and pitch	3
Topic and Illustration Based Presentation	3
Picture and non-verbal presentation	3
3. Presentation on an Article	
Presentation on an article for a magazine on trending issues	3
Presentation based on illustration: Poster presentation	3
4. Presentation- Applications	
Presentation: based on the current reading material	3
E-Portfolio: developing a self-presentation	3
5. Tutorial/ Presentation	
Total	30

IKS118: Cyber Security	Lectures
1. Ubiquity of Digital World and the Need for Security	
IT & Digital Transformations in Last 40 Years	2
Importance, Developments & Dependency on IT	2
Threats to the IT Ecosystem	2
Need of Cyber security	2
2. Nature and Types of Vulnerabilities in Network	
Types of Scams / Cybercrimes	2
Types of Threats	2
Top 10 Web Vulnerabilities	2
Top 10 Mobile Vulnerabilities	2
Top 10 Cloud Vulnerabilities	2
Top 10 IoT Vulnerabilities	2
3. Safety and Security Practices in Network Space	
IT Infrastructure Security Practices	2
Cyber security Implementation	2
Various Security Measures	2
4. Overview of Legal Provisions	
Introduction to Techno-legal Practices	2

IT Act & Compliance	2
Top 10 Cybercrime Cases / Examples	2
Total	30

IKS119- Indian Rhetoric	Lectures
1. Rhetoric as everyday experience	
Persuasion and Convincing: Advertisement & Campaigns	2
Arguments and Debates: Courtrooms to Politics	2
Historical context of Classical Rhetoric in Greece	1
Democracy, Public Opinion and Rhetoric	1
2. Rhetoric: Elements and Versions	
Context and Intent	2
Appeals and arrangement	2
Instruments and ornamentation	2
Culture, History and Versions of Rhetoric	2
3. Nyaya Shastra- Indian Framework of Debate	
Brief background and premise	2
Basic elements, of Nyaya Shastra	2
Logic and arrangement	2
Good & Bad forms of Debate	2
4. Naatya Shastra	
Brief background and premise	2
Basic elements, in Naatya Shastra	2
<i>Sahahridaya & Sadharanikarn Rasa & Bhaav</i>	2
Tutorials/ Revision	2
Total	30

IKS120- Ancient and Vedic Mathematics	Lectures
Vedic Mathematics: Brief History	
Mathematics in Ancient India	2
Relevance & Utility of Vedic Mathematics	2
Contributions by Aryabhatt & Brahmagupt	1
Contributions by Mahaveeracharya & Bharti Krishna Tirtha	1
Application of Vedic Mathematics	
Multiplication of two numbers of two digits	2
Multiplication of two numbers of three digits	2
Multiplication of three numbers of three digits	2
Nikhilam Navtashchramam Dashtaha	2

Division and divisibility	
Two digits divisor	2
Divisibility- Two digits divisor	2
Power and Root Power	
Square (two digit numbers)	2
Cube (two digit numbers).	2
Square root (four digit number)	2
Cube root (six digit numbers)	2
LCM and HCF	4
Total	30

Detailed Syllabus of Semester TWO

OE121: History of Indian Modernity	Lectures
1. Historiography of India: Trends in modern period	
Recovery of Indian history from the past	2
Colonial historiography: Imperialist ideas	2
Indian nationalist historiography	2
Marxist & Subaltern Indian historiography	2
2. Development of capitalism in Britain	
Emerging imperial ideology	2
Development of merchant capitalism	2
Colonialization of Indian Economy	2
Drain of wealth & discriminatory interventionism	1
3. Economic impact of colonial rule	
Land revenue system and changes foreseen	2
Commercialization of agriculture	2
Deindustrialization in India	2
Famines & decline native capital	1
4. Development of literature in Indian languages	
Growth of Indian languages & literary activities	2
Standardization of non-classical Indian languages	2
New literary forms and a new mindset.	2
Spread of English education	2
5. Indian renaissance	
Spread of western knowledge & consciousness	2
History of cultural imperialism	2
Indian response to science and technology	2

6. Social institutions: An interface between Indian society and the colonial state.	
New middle class (literate-urban-professional)	2
Social policy and Indian response	2
Social institutions and the colonial social policy	2
Reform movements.	2
Castes and tribes de-privileged & discriminated	1
Total	45

OE122- Democracy and Governance	Lectures
1. Democracy and Conceptual framework	
Theory and Models of Government	2
Core Principles & Forms of Democracy	2
Core Challenges to Democracy	3
2. Makings of Indian Democracy	
Legacy of Indian National Movement	2
Rise of Federal Structures	2
Devolution of Powers & Local Self Government	2
3. Pillars of Democracy	
Constitutional Framework & Principles	3
Legislature and Executive	2
Judiciary & News media	2
4. India's Democratic Experience	
Emergency Rule	3
Mandal Commission	2
Shah Bano Case	2
Babri Masjid Ayodha Case	2
Article 370	2
5. Governance in Democracy	
Principles of governance	3
Structure & Process of Governance	2
Transparency, Efficiency & Participation	2
Experience of Governance	2
Tutorials, Presentations, Revision	5
Total	45

VEC123 Algorithm and Everyday Life	Lectures
Algorithm: Concept, History & Significance	

Algorithm as goal driven step-wise process	2
Computing Algorithms- Babbage to Rosenblat	2
Computational Data- Demographic to Digital	2
Ubiquity, Significance & Power of algorithms	2
AI as Confluence of Algorithm, Data & Learning	
Existence- Data- Information- Knowledge- Wisdom	2
Algorithms that learn: Instruction to Self-learn	1
Basic concept of Machine & Deep learning	2
Five Schools of Algorithms	2
Applications of Algorithm I: Images & Language	
Elements of image recognition	2
Black movement in image recognition algorithms, Word vector, Implicit Association	3
Applications in Textual studies and Chatting	2
Applications of Algorithm II: Courts & Crime	
Balancing consistency & discretion in judgements	2
False positive and false negative	2
Detecting patterns in crime	2
Predictive policing	1
Applications of Algorithm III: Cars & Cure	
Algorithms that Drives	2
Driverless cars: Some ethical questions	2
Diagnosis and role of computational algorithms	2
Sensitivity and specificity in medical diagnosis	1
Applications of Algorithm IV: Creativity & Culture	
Cultural patterns in cycles of artistic work	2
Predicting patterns of consumption of art	2
Creativity as an important bastion of 'humanness'	1
Applications of algorithm in creating work of art	1
Tutorials/ Presentations/ Revision	3
Total	45

VEC124 – Personal Finance	Lectures
1. Understanding Personal Finance	
Building Blocks to Personal Financial Success	3
Economy Affects Personal Financial Success	2
Time Value of Money	1
Financial and Legal Aspects of Employment	1
2. Financial Statements, Tools, and Budgets	

Financial Values, Goals, and Strategies	1
Statements of Financial Health and Progress	2
Financial Ratios Assess Your Financial Strength and Progress	2
Spending/Savings Action Plan	3
3. Money Management	
Managing Checking and Savings Accounts	1
Psychology of Money Management	1
Building and Maintaining Good Credit	1
Consumer Loans	2
Managing Property and Liability Risk - Insurance	1
Managing Health Expenses	1
4. Investments	
Investment Fundamentals	2
Stocks and Bonds in Investments	2
Investing Through Mutual Funds	1
Investment in Gold	1
Investment in Real Estate	1
Cryptocurrency	2
5. Forms of business	
Sole proprietorship	2
Partnership	2
Company	2
Cooperatives	1
6. Banking and financial institutions	
Saving account, current account, small finance banks	1
Credit card, Pre-paid cards	2
Introduction to RBI and policies of RBI	2
NBFC	1
Introduction to Stock exchanges and brokerage house	
Total No. of Lectures	45

AEC125- Creative Writing in English	Lectures
Introduction to Creative Writing	
What is Creative Writing?	2
Refining Vocabulary, Reading Comprehension	2
Situational Imagination	2
Creation of Word Pictures	2
Creation of Ambience	2
Essays	

Narrative, Descriptive, Expository & Persuasive Essays, Argumentative Essays, Critical Essays	3
Cause & Effect Essays: Compare & Contrast Essays	2
Writing Narrative Fiction	
Elements of Narration: Story, Plot, Characterization	2
Choice of Medium of Narration – Point of View	2
Short Stories – Novellas –Extended Narratives	2
Writing for Stage and Screen	
Basics of Script Writing for Stage and Screen	2
Plot, Characters, Dialogues	1
Characterization on Stage	2
Stage devices and ambience creation	2
Tutorials & Revision	4
Total	30

CC126- Cultural Program/ Review	Lectures
Folk: a cultural preservation	
History and organizations	2
Preservation and Propagation: a medium	2
Folk festivals and craft fairs	2
Traditional performing arts of India	
East India: Bihu, Chhau, Ghoomra	3
West India: Jagor, Sidhi Goma	2
North India: Svanga, Teratali, Pandavni	2
South India: Theyyam, Karagam	2
Central India: Karma	1
Traditional Folk Media: Concept and Role	
Definition, Role and Strengths	2
Types of Folk Media	2
Effectiveness and Applicability for Social Change	2
Folk Art and Modern Art: Transformation & connection	
Modern art and culture: definition and thoughts	2
Development of modern arts: visual, literature & music	2
Influence of folk art on modern art	2
Tutorials & Revision	4
Total	30

SEC127 – Excel: Formats and Formulae	Lectures
Introduction	
Entering, Editing and Formatting Data	1
Formatting Numbers	1
Managing Worksheets	2
Modifying Rows and Columns	1
Formulas & Views	
Changing Views	2
AutoFill and Custom Lists	2
Conditional Formatting	1
Tables & Formulae	
Data Tools	1
Referencing Formulas	2
Lookups & Conditional Logic	2
Text Formulas	1
Introduction to Charts	
Formatting Charts	2
Adding Graphics to Spreadsheets	2
Outline, Sort, Filter, and Subtotal	2
PivotTables	1
Data and AI application	
Protecting Data	2
Collaboration	2
Macros	1
AI extensions	2
Total Lectures	30

SEC128- Photoshop & Corel Draw	Lectures
1. Understanding Photoshop	
Colour modes, File formats, Resolution	2
Customizing workspace & using the interface	1
Basic editing techniques	2
Design aesthetics	1
2. Layers & Selections	
Layers: layer panels and dexterity	2
Different types of selections and usages	2

Creating a realistic mock-up	2
Creating business cards, websites, poster design	1
3. Understanding COREL Draw	
Getting started with the workspace	1
Touring the interface	2
Exploring menus and toolbar	1
Using rulers, grids and guidelines	1
4. Gradients, Commands & Text effects	
Understanding gradients and its types	2
Creating layouts, grouping and ungrouping	2
Power trace and working with power clips	1
Discovering colour palettes, creating a colour palette	1
Apply fountain fills for text effects	1
5. Creating collaterals and designs	
Designing a logo	1
Creating brochures, flyers and illustration	2
Package designing and point-of-purchase display	1
Dynamics of printing the creatives	1
Total Lectures	30